

Hafa Adai!

Guam avoids severe coral bleaching predicted for this year. PAGE 2
CUC to inspect power meters at IPI resort, CPA, others. PAGE 3

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 204

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2019

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8 homeless after fire

A blaze set a house on fire in Gualo Rai just before 2am Monday morning, leaving homeless a total of eight individuals. No one was hurt in the blaze.

According to an American Red Cross statement, the multi-family See FIRE on Page 4

COP hotel re-opening is delayed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The initial plan to re-open the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort in March 2020 has been pushed back due to

» PIC renovations 90% complete

manpower problems, according to Hotel Association of the Northern See COP on Page 4



HOPWOOD CLEANUP

Students of Hopwood Middle School assist in the cleanup efforts at the Chalan Piao campus. In hopes of seeing their return to the Hopwood Middle School campus in Chalan Piao come closer, school staff, student leaders, elected leaders, and members of Hopwood Middle School's Parent-Teacher Association joined together to clean up the campus of debris and overgrown grass last Friday. Reps. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan), Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Richard Lizama (Ind-Saipan) joined the cleanup; other lawmakers donated materials or refreshments.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Insular Cases up before Supreme Court

On Tuesday (Wednesday in the CNMI), the U.S. Supreme Court's nine justices will squarely face the question of where the *Insular Cases* stand as they consider whether the financial oversight and management board for Puerto Rico violates the appointments clause of the Constitution.

This follows concerns two justices raised about the *Insular Cases* last week that hint to the possibility that, after more than a century, there may

See INSULAR on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Are you up for a walking tour of Garapan? Welcome to the Garapan Heritage Trail tour!

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ASIA

The death toll in Japan from Typhoon Hagibis has climbed to as high as 33.

PAGE 15



WORLD

Turkey's military said it captured a key Syrian border town under heavy bombardment.

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Local

Guam avoids severe coral bleaching predicted for this year

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Official say vulnerable coral reefs on Guam have not experienced severe bleaching that was predicted for this year.

Pacific Daily News reported that the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans says a mass coral bleaching event indicated by satellite measurements of sea surface temperatures did not occur.

Officials say recent stormy weather including Super Typhoon Hagibis may have contributed to the coral's survival through cloud

cover that cooled surface water temperatures.

Officials say storms and wind are also likely to have created cooling water movement.

The National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Watch program indicated in July that the island would likely experience significant bleaching, which often precedes coral death.

A coral reef resilience coordinator with the statistics and plans bureau says Guam has "so far been very lucky."



File photo from February 2016 shows a diver swimming through bleached corals at Heron Island.
THE OCEAN AGENCY/XL CATLIN SEAVIEW SURVEY/RICHARD VEVERS

OPD files 15th motion in sex abuse of minor case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Defender has asked the Superior Court to compel the Office of the Attorney General to give the suspect in a sex abuse case the employment/personnel records of the police sergeant who arrested him.

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona, counsel for defendant Joseph Seaman Epina, said the materials being sought bear on the integrity of the investigation in the case as a whole, which concerns the validity of this

» Defense counsel seeks personnel records of a cop who arrested defendant

case altogether.

In a motion filed Friday, Zona asked the court to subpoena the CNMI Office of Personnel Management to produce certain personnel records of Sgt. Catherine Pangelinan, who is now the evidence custodian of the Department of Public Safety.

In the alternative, Zona

asked that Pangelinan's personnel records be given to the court for review.

The motion is Epina's 15th filed in court. It will be heard on Nov. 13, 2019, at 10am.

Zona is seeking materials pertaining to Pangelinan such as any evidence concerning complaints of dishonesty, excessive or unnecessary force or violence, aggressive conduct, racial or class prejudice or bias, improper police tactics, false statements in reports, incomplete statements in reports, false claims of probable cause to search or arrest, fabrication of charges

and/or evidence, and false testimony.

Zona also wants to know why the sergeant's assignment was changed from detective in the DPS Criminal Investigation Unit to evidence custodian.

Zona said recent news reports suggest that the DPS evidence locker is plagued by problems, including improper security procedures, that threaten the authenticity of the materials kept there.

Zona said to the extent Pangelinan was transferred to the position of evidence custodian due to concerns about her work as a detective (or even as

the evidence custodian), that information would be relevant to her credibility.

Zona said Epina's expected defense is based, in part, on Pangelinan's incompetence and misconduct, including her flawed and biased investigation of this case, as well as her lack of training.

Zona said Pangelinan had testified that then-assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio, who was originally assigned to Epina's case, criticized her job performance.

Zona said Pangelinan testified that she was so angry to hear of Tenorio's complaints that she (Pangelinan) threw out her notes in the case.

Subsequently, Zona said, Pangelinan was transferred to the evidence locker, where it appears she is now evidence custodian.

The second amended information charged the 45-year-old Epina with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and disturbing the peace. He allegedly sexually abused a 12-year-old girl on March 12, 2016.

When former prosecutor Elizabeth Weintraub left OAG in 2017, the case was assigned to Tenorio. Last February, Tenorio also left the OAG.

The case is being handled by Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

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CUC to inspect power meters at IPI resort, CPA, others

Electrical engineers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be inspecting the power meters of major government and commercial customers, including that of

the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan.

The intent is to make sure that the meters are working correctly and ensure that CUC is capturing correct revenue

streams from its high-end electric power users.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho informed CUC directors during Thursday's board meeting that

their electrical engineers will also inspect the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Kanoa Resort, Triple J's Comfort

Homes, and Triple J's Sandy Beach Homes.

He did not indicate the dates as to when the inspections will occur.

Camacho said in an effort

to address CUC's technical and non-technical losses along its power distribution system, their electrical engineers will work with their billing department on evaluating CUC's ability to capture correct billing data of government and commercial electric customers.

He said their electrical engineers will re-evaluate 370 primary metering devices.

He said CUC electrical engineers will verify the Potential Transformers/Current Transformers ratio of primary metering devices and determine whether the devices are capturing the actual power usage of government and commercial customers. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

NMC students learn the ropes of marketing through garden

Ed's Bonita Park on Upper Navy Hill will become the centerpiece of a project of business major students of the Northern Marianas College's Marketing Management class, who will use the park as a hands-on tool to learn marketing concepts.

As part of their overall marketing project, the group must find ways to promote the botanical garden to various markets. They started off by meeting park manager Michael Manglona last Sept. 20.

As part of the course, students will work as teams to identify unique ways to market the park to various ethnic groups such as the Chinese market, the local market, the Korean market, the Japanese market, and an overall concept for educational purposes.

Manglona thanked NMC assistant professor Barbara Hunter for bringing up the idea to help promote local businesses



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business majors of the Northern Marianas College visited Ed's Bonita Park on Upper Navy Hill last Thursday.

for her marketing class.

Ed's Bonita Park is a private, 45-acre botanical garden located on Upper Navy Hill.

Hunter's class will create a mock website, a mini-brochure, and a short commercial that relates to the botanical garden.

For those interested or in need of additional information, you may book a scheduled visit at the botanical

garden's Facebook page "Ed's Bonita Park" or email ebp670@gmail.com. (*Marc A. Venus*)

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RMI*From Page 1*

tion 83 on Oct. 11, 2019, effectively declaring a national climate crisis and announcing the island nation's intent to direct current and future RMI governments to prioritize the issue of climate change.

The resolution noted the "extreme vulnerability and special circumstances faced by low-lying

coral atoll nations," such as the Marshall Islands, which are faced with a projected rise in sea levels that will ultimately result in a "significant or total loss of land mass."

"Our parliament has officially declared a national climate crisis. As one of only four low-lying coral atoll nations in the world, the failure of the international community to adequately respond to the global climate crisis of its

own making holds particularly grave consequences," Marshall Islands president Dr. Hilda C. Heine noted in a social media post.

"The [RMI] is calling for the international community to consider ways to respond to and support the extreme vulnerability and special circumstances faced by the low-lying coral atoll nations of the world," the resolution added.

It urged other governments

to respond to a recent call by the United Nations to submit updated 2040 decarbonization strategies in line with the Paris Climate Accord, a United Nations pact that calls for the financial support for efforts toward combatting climate change.

The resolution cited the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's special report, which projects global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius.

According to the report, by 2100, global mean sea level rise is projected to be around 0.1 meters, with global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius to over 2 degrees Celsius.

"A slower rate of sea level rise enables greater opportunities for adaptation in the human and ecological systems of small islands, low-lying coastal areas, and deltas," the report further noted.

"A reduction of 0.1 meters in global sea level rise implies that up to 10 million fewer people would be exposed to related risks,"

the report further noted, citing population numbers for 2010.

"Increasing warming amplifies the exposure of small islands, low-lying coastal areas and deltas to the risks associated with sea level rise for many human and ecological systems, including increased saltwater intrusion, flooding and damage to infrastructure," the report further noted.

RMI has been reporting increased incidences of the intrusion of high tides, called king tides, with ocean inundation creeping higher and higher each year.

**GMS STUDENTS SHINE AT NJSDA**

Congratulations to the Green Meadow School Falcons who won during the first National Junior Speech and Debate Association meet last Sept. 28, 2019, at the Northern Marianas International School. The GMS winners were: Areeza Gaile Anda (1st place Prose Masters; 2nd place Declamation); Ariel Legaspi (2nd place Poetry Masters; 4th place Prose Masters); Danielle Nicole Sacramento (3rd place Poetry Masters; 4th place DUO); Joseph Jimenez (3rd place Declamation; 3rd place Prose Masters; 4th place Poetry Masters); Honey June Satur (4th place DUO); and Chealzka Navarro (3rd place Prose-B; 4th place Declamation).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COP*From Page 1*

Mariana Islands board chair Gloria Cavanagh.

In an interview last week, Cavanagh also revealed that the renovation at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio is now 90% complete.

Cavanagh is general manager of PIC, which is the sister company of Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort in Koblerville.

Super Typhoon Yutu wreaked havoc on Saipan in October 2018, causing major damage at PIC and COP. COP has been closed since Yutu's onslaught.

It was reported last May that COP has finally started the process of renovation, which involves tearing down the damaged parts.

Cavanagh said that COP was scheduled to re-open this March but, because of challenges with manpower, its re-

opening was moved back.

Cavanagh can't give a specific date on COP's re-opening because they don't have the schedule yet.

"But they are making headway and the demolition is done already and now they are starting to build," she said.

Cavanagh said that, right now, they are working with the number of construction workers they have on the island.

With respect to PIC, Cavanagh said that renovation

work on about 10% of the resort has yet to be completed.

"We still have to put the tiles on the roof," she said, adding that they would probably complete the renovation by the first or second quarter of next year.

Last Dec. 21, PIC re-opened almost two months after sustaining major damage.

Cavanagh earlier estimated that repairing and renovating PIC would cost between \$5 million and \$7 million.

were assisted. "Thankfully nobody was hurt during this incident," said Amirez. "Material possessions can always be replaced [but] lives can't—and that what matters."

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release a report about the incident. The cause of the blaze has yet to be determined.

The American Red Cross urges the community to take steps to minimize the risk of a fires from happening in their homes. John Hirsh, executive director of the lo-

cal chapter of the American Red Cross, said the aid agency continues to install free smoke alarms in the community.

"We encourage everyone who does not have one [smoke alarms] in their homes to contact the local Red Cross chapter to avail of the program," he said.

This month, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, in collaboration with the CNMI Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, will be canvassing

neighborhoods on all three islands to install free smoke alarms, said J.D. Tenorio, disaster program manager of the American Red Cross.

For more information on how to avail of the free smoke alarms, call 234-3459.

"We are grateful for our volunteers and the continued support of generous donors and community members who with their help, we are able to assist victims of disaster by turning compassion into action," said Tenorio. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Significantly, parties on both sides of the dispute now argue that the Supreme Court should overrule the *Insular Cases*. On one side, the government of Puerto Rico has expressly argued for overruling the *Insular Cases*, even as it supports the constitutionality of the board. On the other side, Unión de Trabajadores de la Industria Eléctrica y Riego believes the board is unconstitutional, but also strongly argues the *Insular Cases* should be overruled. UTIER's counsel, Jessica Mendez Colberg, a young Puerto Rican attorney making her first argument before the Supreme Court, will have 10 minutes on Tuesday to make her case to the Supreme Court.

Notably, the United States now also expressly disavows any reliance on the *Insular Cases* to support the constitutionality of the board, even as it relied upon them extensively before the district court.

Other parties continue to rely on the *Insular Cases* to argue in favor of the board's constitutionality.

"The Supreme Court should overrule its shameful rulings in the *Insular Cases* this term, just as it overruled its shameful ruling in the Japanese internment case, *Korematsu v. United States*, last term," Weare said.

During oral argument last week in *Ramos v. Louisiana*, a case involving whether the Constitution guarantees a right to a unanimous jury verdict, Justice Stephen Breyer raised concerns that the Supreme Court "might have to revise" the *Insular Cases*. In the same argument, Justice Samuel Alito raised whether the high court "should brush aside" what he characterized as "the old *Insular Cases* that reflect attitudes of the day." Both justices may have been thinking ahead to this Tuesday's consolidated argument in *Financial Oversight and Management Board v. Aurelius Investment, LLC*, where the First Circuit acknowledged earlier this year that the territorial incorporation doctrine created by the *Insular Cases* "hovers like a dark cloud."

Equally American, and these other *amicus* parties, take no position on the merits of the dispute.

Tuesday's argument will take place at 10am, with a transcript of the oral argument available shortly after the argument concludes. A decision is not expected until later this year or early next year. (PR)

\$785K awarded for high-priority energy projects

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Office of Grants Management, together with CNMI's Office of Insular Affairs field representative Harry Blanco and Rota municipal government leaders recently discussed projects funded by the Department of the Interior-OIA programs and potential project ideas for upcoming grant opportunities.

The CNMI has been awarded a total of \$785,381 in fiscal year 2019 grant funding through the Office of Insular Affairs' Energizing Insular Community program.

Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Doug Domenech told Gov. Ralph DLG Torres about the grant award last Thursday.

The EIC funding will be awarded to the Office of the Governor for the following high priority energy projects within the Commonwealth:

- \$222,988 for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Battery Energy Storage System Feasibility Study for Rota.
- \$160,000 for the Rota Aquaponics Program Photovoltaic System.

- \$152,393 for the CNMI

Strategic Energy Plan Update.

- \$250,000 for Photovoltaic Lighting for Tinian Public Buildings and Pathways.

"Energy projects are a critical part of our administration's goals towards energy efficiency on all three islands, and we are very grateful to [Domenech] and OIA for funding these priorities. The projects will help improve the lives of residents on Rota and Tinian, while also allowing us to plan for bigger energy priorities in the future. Lt. Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios and I thank our Office of Grants Management Team for their hard work, [Rota Mayor] Efraim Atalig and his team, and [Tinian Mayor] Edwin P. Aldan and his team for their coordination on these projects," said Torres. (PR)

Juan Pan featured in AMP youth program

Once again, the American Memorial Park and Pacific Historic Parks are hosting the annual program, "Icons of World War II." The program leads children in hands on learning about iconic World War II figures.

Last year featured Rosie the Riveter, the servicemen who left home to fight in the war, and the locals who were drafted as Marine scouts. This year the program will feature two men who also played a significant role in the CNMI islands' history: Herman "Pan" Guerrero of Herman's Bakery and Haruji Matsue, also known as the Sugar King.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, from 8:30am to 2:30pm, the park welcomes youth to participate in the first session, called "Herman 'Pan' Guerrero: A

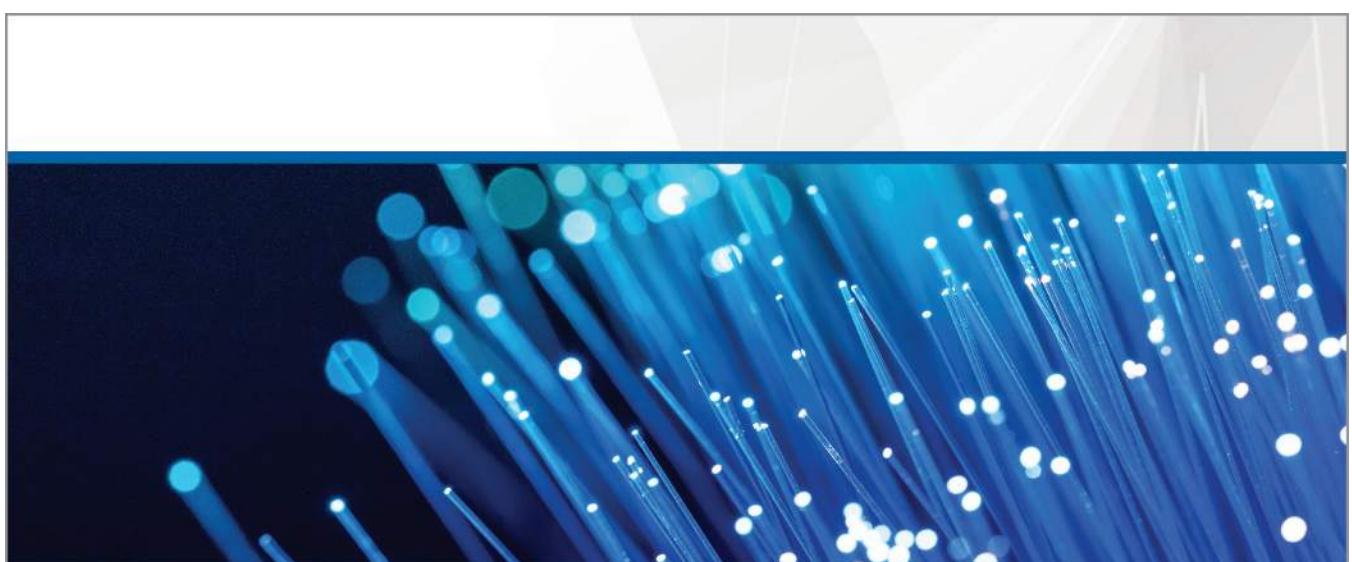
Reviving the canoe culture

The Humanities Council, in celebration of the month of October as Humanities Month, will be hosting the event "Reviving and Promoting Canoe Culture in the Marianas" on Oct. 30, 6pm, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater.

Pete Perez, executive director of 500 Sails, will be talking about his work to revive the canoe culture by building traditional sakman (canoe).

Perez, who co-founded the Sakman Chamorro Inc. in 2006, is part of the movement to "restore the Chamorro maritime tradition."

"[It goes] back to Commodore George Anson, who sailed here and observed, back in the 1700s. They saw all these Chamorro canoes when their big ship came into our islands, and one of their men drew it to scale," council executive direc-



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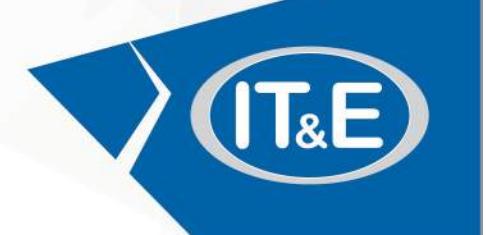
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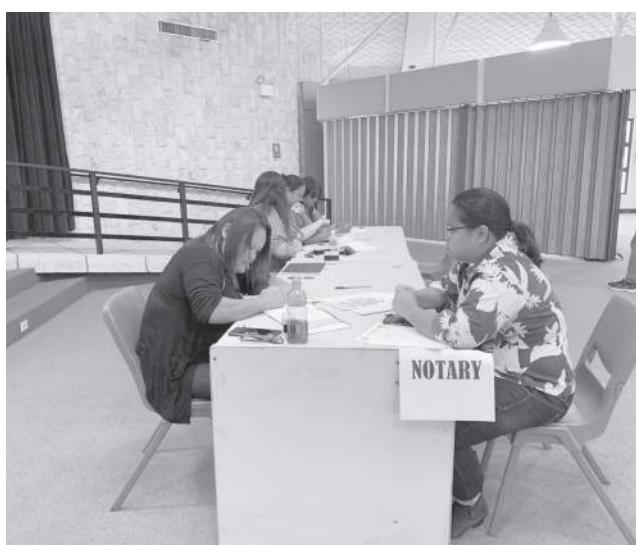
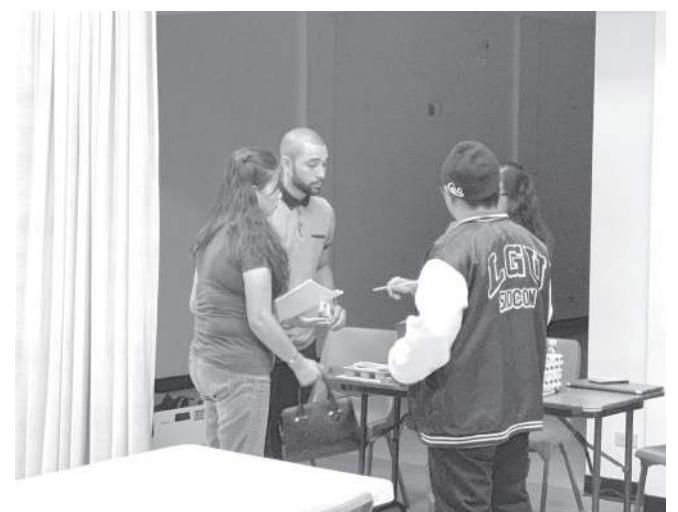
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Census 2020 Job Fair



Saturday's CNMI Census 2020 job fair at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, from 10am to 4pm, drew 174 visitors. Over 300 visited the first day of the job fair last Friday. The final day of the job fair for the 2020 Census would be held on Oct. 19, 2019, also at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. According to 2020 Census office manager Claudio "Clyde" Norita, the job fair was intended as a one-stop shop, where all agencies needed to secure an extensive list of requirements were present under one roof.

'DHS exec's resignation is another troubling sign'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinaires@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. President Donald J. Trump announced via tweet his plan to soon name a replacement for acting U.S. Department of Homeland Security secretary Kevin

McAleenan, who has stepped down from the post.

Trump, in a two-part tweet on Oct. 11, announced McAleenan's resignation, while also adding that he would be announcing a replacement this week.

While Delegate Gregorio

Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) believes this would have very minimal effect on the CNMI's CW visa program, he noted that the resignation of the fourth person to lead the department under Trump is "another troubling sign."

"And his departure will only add to the confusion for a department where there are chronically too many leadership vacancies and positions held by unconfirmed, 'acting' officials," Sablan added.

The department oversees border security, immigration

services, counter-terrorism, cybersecurity and emergency management, among others," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Torres administration is not too concerned about this personnel movement, besides saying they are aware of the matter.

"...We don't see this personnel change affecting our ongoing discussions with DHS and [U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services] regarding the [foreign worker] program. Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres has made great strides

in maintaining a close and constructive dialogue with the White House and DHS officials on our unique labor needs, and this administration intends to continue the work to advocate for all of our businesses, their employees, and our whole community because we understand how critical this is," said press secretary Kevin Bautista. "This administration remains committed to increasing our U.S. workforce, while also making sure businesses remain viable and successful."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SHRM meeting on Oct. 23

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter is inviting its members, associated HR and management staff, and interested members of the public to attend its next general membership meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret beginning at 11am.

The meeting will feature PSS Cooperative Education program coordinator Brandon Nicholas and Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence executive director Maisie Tenorio. This meeting is open to the public.

The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by email at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The NMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. For more information about the NMI Chapter, visit their website at <http://nmichapter.shrm.org>. (PR)

Area 517.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10'N/144° 30'E, 13° 10'N/144° 42"E, 12° 50'N/144° 45"E, 11° 00'N/144° 45"E, 11° 00'N/143° 00"E, 11° 45'N/143° 00"E, and 12° 50'N/144° 30"E.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct open-ocean exercises on Oct. 16, from 6am to 5pm, within a 10-nautical-mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 48'N/144° 41"E.

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. (PR)

CHamoru commission meeting set

The Kumisiñon i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'lå'i Tao-tao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its second October monthly meeting on Oct. 24, 2019, Thursday, from 2:30pm to 5pm at the Guam Museum conference room, in Hågatña. Call Roland Blas, Kumisiñon secretary, for special accommodations and agenda at 480-4047 or email at rolandblas1973@gmail.com. (PR)

Military training in Dandan, Warning Area 517, open ocean

SANTA RITA, Guam—Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct training Oct. 15-17, from 11am to 11:55pm at the Dandan-Malojloj training site in Inarajan.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed, if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. The public should be advised that routine helicopter training, often accompanied with the use of blanks, can occur during these trainings.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training today, Oct. 15, from 3-11pm; Oct. 16, from 1pm to 10pm; and Oct. 17, 5pm to 11:55pm, at Warning

Golf tournament fundraiser for JKPL

The 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser is happening on Sunday, Nov. 10, at Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort's west course. Game format is Low Gross and Double Peoria, 2-Person Scramble (Men and Women). Cost to participate is \$200 entry per team. All proceeds will help support the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and its resource and collection development, circulation materials, and library programs. Last day to register is Thursday, Nov. 7, at 5pm. (PR)

Guam to release more tax refunds

HAGATNA, Guam—The

Guam Department of Revenue & Taxation will mail this week 942 tax refund checks totaling approximately \$ 2.3 million, including refunds garnished to repay government debts for

error-free returns filed on or before April 20, 2019.

For inquiries, contact the Income Tax Branch of the Department of Revenue & Taxation at 671-635-1840. (PR)

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Take the Garapan Heritage Trail challenge!

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Are you up for a walking tour around Garapan?

The village is not merely the commercial and urban center of Saipan. Discover and learn more about the past by visiting 20 historical and cultural sites in Garapan, which has played a significant role in the island's history for over three millennia.

The sites are part of the Garapan Heritage Trail tour launched last Friday by the NMI Humanities Council.

Representatives of tour companies, the education sector, and the media hopped on a chartered bus to check out and

experience the sites. Humanities Council executive director Leo Pangelinan emphasized, though, that the tour is best experienced on foot since some of the sites are in narrow passages inaccessible to buses.

"This Garapan Heritage Trail tour is intended to be a walking tour," Pangelinan said. "The council, we've gone out, our staff have read history books, as well as try to corroborate the story with the elders to make sure that we are explaining the history of the sites correctly."

The tour last Friday started at the American Memorial Park, with lead ranger Brooke Nevitt talking about the history of, and what pro-

grams they have at the AMP. Other sites visited include the Carolinian Utt, the Nambo Pier, the Catholic Church Bell Tower, the Sugar Train Locomotive and the Matsue Statue at the Sugar King Park, Saipan Jinja, and the old Japanese Jail.

It also included a trip to the NMI Museum of History and Culture, which, from 1926 to 1944, served the public as a Japanese hospital.

Pangelinan hinted that more sites could be added to the 20 sites that are currently part of the heritage trail.

"Some of the unofficial historians on our tour today were pointing out some other historical sites in Garapan, as



A visitor reads the signage at the old Japanese Jail. The jail is part of the 20 historic and cultural sites included in the Garapan Heritage Trail tour.

See opposite page for more photos

IVA MAURIN

we were driving along, that are worthy of recognition and

explanation," Pangelinan said. The council has also not in-

cluded historic sites that are on private property.

"Maybe Phase 2 of our project is to put those on the map and explain to tourists that, if they want to access those places, here are the owners. This is how you can get permission to get on the property and look at, whether it's a cave [or] remnants of a building," Pangelinan added.

A digital map, as well as additional information about the Garapan Heritage Trail can be accessed via garapanheritagetrail.com.

Printed maps are also available through the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Humanities Council. At the moment, information is available in five languages: English, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, and Russian.

IN RULING THAT FEDERAL COURT HAS JURISDICTION OVER HILLBROOM LAWSUIT

Judge finds that Israel, Lujan offer no other argument

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ruled that lawyers Barry J. Israel and David J. Lujan have offered no persuasive argument why the federal court does not have jurisdiction over the lawsuit filed against them by their former client, Junior Larry Hillbroom.

In denying Israel's and Lujan's motion to dismiss Hillbroom's lawsuit, Manglona said Hillbroom does not need to establish extrinsic fraud to invoke federal jurisdiction.

Hillbroom satisfied his burden of establishing federal question jurisdiction over his Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act claims, and

diversity jurisdiction over the remaining claims, said Manglona in a written order Thursday last week that contains detailed reasoning for the decision.

The judge issued an oral ruling of the motion to dismiss after hearing the parties' arguments last Sept. 19.

Israel, through counsel Theodore Frank, moved to dismiss the lawsuit. Lujan joined in the motion.

Israel and Lujan assert that extrinsic fraud is the sole basis of federal jurisdiction over this case and now that discovery is complete, the absence of extrinsic fraud evidence warrants a dismissal.

Israel and Lujan claim that, without evidence of extrinsic fraud, Hillbroom's RICO claim fails and without RICO

claim, there is no federal jurisdiction.

Defendants further declared, without citing to the record, that the District Court "ruled extrinsic fraud is necessary for federal...jurisdiction over plaintiff's claims."

At the hearing, Israel's counsel directed Manglona to a sentence in her decision and order denying Lujan and Israel's motion for judgment on the pleadings to support this contention.

Manglona disagreed with the defendants' interpretation of that decision.

In her written order, Manglona said nowhere did she rule that extrinsic fraud was required for jurisdiction. Rather, Manglona said, she considered the defendants' arguments that the exercise

of jurisdiction over this case would involve the improper review of a Guam Superior Court order in violation of the full faith and credit clause of the U.S. Constitution and the Rooker-Feldman doctrine.

The full faith and credit clause refers to the duties that states within the U.S. have to respect the "public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state."

Rooker-Feldman refers to a legal principle that a federal court "do not have jurisdiction to review decisions of state courts or claims inextricably intertwined with an earlier state-court judgment."

Manglona said she addressed the role of extrinsic fraud but did not hold that it was a determinative factor in rejecting both defenses.

First, as to the full faith and credit cause, Manglona said she held that "the issues the Guam court decided are not identical to the issues in this lawsuit, and

therefore the third prong of the *res judicata* test is not satisfied."

Manglona said defendants have not presented any argument why a lack of evidence of extrinsic fraud would change that conclusion.

Res judicata refers to a legal doctrine that bars litigation in a subsequent action of any claims that were raised or could have been raised in the prior action.

Hillbroom is suing Israel, Lujan, and his former trustee, Keith Waibel, alleging mismanagement of approximately \$90 million he inherited as heir of Larry Lee Hillblom, a co-founder and former owner of DHL Worldwide Express.

In two separate lawsuits, Hillbroom alleges that the defendants increased their contingency fee from 38% to 56% through fraud and breaches of their fiduciary duties.

He also alleges that defendants fraudulently backdated the 56% retainer, submitted a

false report to the trust protector, and paid unsubstantiated costs from the trust funds.

Hillbroom's first lawsuit was only against Lujan. In his second complaint, he sued Israel and Waibel. Both cases allege nearly the same facts.

Hillbroom, however, did not bring a claim of negligence against Lujan. The court consolidated the two cases.

Hillbroom is suing for legal malpractice, negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud and RICO violation.

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of Hillblom. His name is spelled differently from that of Hillblom.

Hillblom died in a seaplane crash off Anatahan waters on a flight from Pagan to Saipan on May 21, 1995, leaving behind an estate worth approximately \$550 million. The bodies of the pilot and a business partner were found, but Hillblom's body was never recovered.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 15, 2004

Paseo de Marianas is newest NMI park

The government designated yesterday the soon-to-be opened Paseo de Marianas in Garapan as a Commonwealth Park in recognition of its "significant social and economic benefits" to the CNMI. In a directive issued yesterday, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said these benefits include "an enhanced destination for visitors that translates into greater opportunities for business, a wonderful venue for community cultural and social activities, and an improved drainage system for the Garapan district that protects the environment on which our economy depends." The government said the entire project would generate at least \$200 million in revenue within the four-year period of the revitalization.

Babauta OKs \$5.2M for Saipan

Gov. Juan N. Babauta approved a bill yesterday appropriating a total of \$5.2 million for Saipan, including \$1 million for the CNMI Water Task Force. In signing House Local Bill 14-08, Babauta said the funds—as identified by the Saipan legislative delegation—would be sourced from local poker and pachinko revenues. Babauta, in his transmittal letter to the delegation, said that \$1 million of the funding would be prioritized for the task

force to ensure a 24-hour pressurized water supply on Saipan by next year. The bill was introduced by Reps. Arnold Palacios and Ramon Tebuteb. In his letter, the governor said that many other capital improvement projects are also important "but difficult choices, however, must be made and some projects will have to wait until such time [that] funds are made available."

October 15, 2005

Taiwanese TV show to shoot on Saipan

A Taiwanese television producer and a media executive flew to Saipan this week for onsite inspection in preparation for a three-day filming here later this month. Ed Ho, TTV producer, and James Lin, managing director of IDSON Communication Co. Ltd., said they found Saipan to be "an ideal place" for filming for a prime-time TV game show, which they translated as "Happy Go, Go." "Taiwanese people really love the ocean, the sea, the beach. He said that the show's hosts, contestants, and staff, who love to travel, would enjoy Saipan.

'Urban revitalization' eyed for Plumeria housing

Commonwealth Development Authority board chair Tom Glen Quitugua said it is "a worthwhile idea" to consider an urban revitalization approach when pursuing the government's Plumeria Estate project. Quitugua said urban revitalization means modernizing or improving on existing facilities. As proposed by the Babauta administration, Plumeria Estate will rise on a 13-hectare lot in Koblerville, which currently does not have electricity, water, sewer, and road systems. Quitugua said the Plumeria project can make use of existing sites, such as the rundown MIHA hous-

ing at the back of Garapan Elementary School and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

October 15, 2008

Safety of skaters at new park examined

Some members of the Rotary Club of Saipan have expressed concern about the safety of youngsters who are using the club's latest project, a Skate Park, which has yet to officially open. The newly constructed \$15,000 project is to be inaugurated sometime this month. Rotarian Dennis Yoshimoto, who co-chairs the skate park project along with Laurie Peterka, said he would seriously look into this matter. He said the facility is in fact still under construction. They hired skate park specialist John Glaze from Indonesia in August to oversee the construction of the project. The Rotary took on the project after realizing the great risks children face when skating on public roads.

CUC gets proposals from 2 firms for overhaul work

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has received proposals from two companies that are interested in overhauling two engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base that were left undone by a previous contractor. CUC executive director Antonio Muñoz told Saipan Tribune that they received two proposals and that one is much higher than the other. CUC put out in the latter part of July the emergency Request for Proposals for the overhaul work on power engines no. 5 and 7. CUC is looking at generating 22 megawatts from these engines when overhaul work is completed.

Garapan Heritage Trail



Challenge yourself to learn more about Garapan's history by checking out all 20 sites in the Garapan Heritage Trail tour that is accessible via garapanheritagetrail.com.

IVA MAURIN



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 203

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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EDITORIAL

Make it harder for the FBI to snoop on Americans' conversations with foreigners

When Congress reauthorized a controversial program last year that allows the government to scoop up the emails and video chats of foreigners abroad with possible connections to terrorism, it included provisions to safeguard the privacy of Americans on the other end of those communications.

But a recently declassified opinion from the special court that oversees intelligence activities suggests that the FBI didn't take that mandate seriously enough. Congress needs to ensure that the bureau is following the law.

Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act allows the government to collect the electronic communications of foreigners living abroad. The program has been described by members of Congress, including former Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), as a valuable counterterrorism tool.

But in today's electronically interconnected world, monitoring the communications of foreign "targets" inevitably collects some communications involving Americans.

To protect privacy rights, the current version of the law requires that government agencies keep records of how often they "query" (or search) the huge database of intercepted communications for information about "U.S. persons"—citizens and lawful permanent residents. Section 702 also requires that the queries be "conducted in a manner consistent with the 4th Amendment."

But in an opinion made public last week, Judge James Boasberg of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court determined a year ago that the FBI hadn't fully adhered to the privacy safeguards. For example, he cited several instances in which the FBI searched for information about large groups of U.S. persons without satisfying the requirement that the search be "reasonably likely to return foreign-intelligence information or evidence of crime." Some of the searches involved using search terms apparently associated with people who worked for the FBI—presumably, an attempt to use foreign-intelligence information for personnel review.

Until checked by the court, the FBI seemed to have taken Congress' mandates to protect Americans' privacy as mere suggestions. Congress needs to demand that FBI Director Christopher A. Wray demonstrate that his agents aren't engaging in fishing expeditions in the sea of intercepted communications involving Americans.

The law may also need to be changed. Although the FBI must obtain a court order to read the contents of some communications turned up in a computer search under

See FBI on Next Page

REACTIONS TO THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW U.S. TROOPS FROM SYRIA



NBA air-balls response to China controversy

The NBA says it won't compromise on its values, even as the league makes it clear it has none.

As you've no doubt heard, Houston Rockets general manager Daryl Morey tweeted his support for the protesters in Hong Kong. Almost instantly, the Chinese government and Chinese businesses erupted in outrage. The NBA, the Rockets, Morey and various players rushed to apologize or express regret for offending millions of Chinese basketball fans. The NBA's statement, particularly the Chinese version, was loathsome in its obsequious groveling.

A few days later, NBA commissioner Adam Silver held a press conference in Tokyo, hoping to put out the firestorm. Responding to China's cancellation of some NBA exhibition games in protest, Silver seemed like he was standing his ground.

"I think it's unfortunate," Silver said of the cancelled games. "But if that's the consequences of us adhering to our values, we still feel it's critically important we adhere to those values. ... We are not apologizing for Daryl exercising his freedom of expression."

Silver did express regret, however, that so many in China, including "millions and millions of our fans" were "upset." He said that while he wasn't endorsing what Morey tweeted, he would defend Morey's right to tweet it.

Of course, the tweet remains deleted.

Days later, fans carrying pro-Hong Kong signs were ejected from an NBA exhibition game in Philadelphia. At a Washington Wizards game, pro-Hong Kong signs were confiscated by security. American reporters have been told they couldn't ask players about the China controversy. A CNN reporter was instructed "Basketball questions only" when she tried to talk to two Rockets players. The league later apologized, which it seems to be getting good at.

In other words, the NBA is eager to seem as if it's in favor of free expression while curtailing expression as much as possible. The strategy has had some success. A CNN headline declared, "NBA chief Adam Silver says profit can't come before the league's principles," and was accurate to the extent that it's sort of what Silver said. It's not clear it's what he believes.

The mere fact that this controversy has become about free expression is a victory for the NBA. Saying, in effect, "I disagree with what you say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it," has always been a popular way for cowards to seem brave.

The problem is that free expression is just one of the values the NBA claims to stand for. In Silver's statement, he waxed po-

By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service



Jonah Goldberg's latest book, Suicide of the West, is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.

etic about the principle the league is famous for marketing to the world: diversity. "One of the enduring strengths of the NBA is our diversity—of views, backgrounds, ethnicities, genders and religions," the statement read.

That's great. But the Chinese government has herded more than a million Muslim Uighurs into "re-education camps" while paving over their cemeteries and tearing down their mosques. The same league that pulled its all-star game out of Charlotte, N.C., over a contentious transgender bathroom law has no problem partnering with a country that fights diversity at the point of a gun.

As first reported in Slate, the NBA even has a training facility in Urumqi, the capital of Xianjing, the epicenter of China's cultural genocide project.

China's lack of commitment to diversity and equality doesn't end there. The country essentially practices Jim Crow with Chinese characteristics, as Chairman Mao might have said. If you aren't ethnic Han, or if you don't speak Mandarin, you're a second-class citizen with little to no access to certain jobs and universities.

What Silver doesn't understand—or deliberately ignores—is that free expression isn't a stand-alone value. It's part of a larger whole, which includes democracy, the rule of law and the full suite of human rights. China opposes the whole package. Or, to be more accurate, the Chinese government does. Which is why it's against freedom in Hong Kong.

It's clever for Silver to talk about not wanting to offend "millions and millions" of Chinese fans. That plays well to the ears of woke Americans who think offending people tests the limits of free speech. But Twitter is blocked in China, which means none of those fans saw the tweet in the first place.

What they did see was the orchestrated propaganda campaign from the Chinese government and its rich clients—a group that includes the NBA.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

NBA's deference to China in the wake of controversy shows how money trumps freedom of speech

China's clash with the National Basketball Association over a short tweet reveals an unfortunate truth. Contrary to our best American hopes that China's success with market capitalism would weaken that government's chokehold on free speech, it appears to have done more to seduce us.

That's because lots of money hangs in the balance and, as much as the NBA may be the most prominent American business being targeted by Chinese authorities, it is hardly alone.

Apple, for example, late Wednesday removed a smartphone app used by pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong in the tech giant's latest surrender to China's autocratic government. The app, HKmap.live, allows protesters and others to track Hong Kong police movements through crowdsourced information.

The Beijing government also complained via its state-run news outlet, People's Daily, that Apple allowed a song advocating Hong Kong independence to be available on its platforms. The government doesn't like too much chatter about independence, whether spoken or sung.

The government also has banned some fashion brands and suggestive T-shirts. Recent crackdowns have included Winnie the Pooh. Too bad. It wasn't his idea to be used as a political symbol by satirists because of his alleged resemblance to President Xi Jinping.

But none of those episodes has received as much attention as the message that Daryl Morey, general manager of the Houston Rockets, tweeted on Oct. 4 in support of anti-Beijing protesters who have jammed Hong Kong streets for the past four months: "Fight for Freedom. Stand with Hong Kong."

The tweet was quickly deleted and the NBA league announced its "regret" that many Chinese, particularly those who live outside Hong Kong, were offended by the tweet. Since the Chinese government doesn't allow free press or free speech, it is very

hard to say how many were delighted by the message.

The NBA's apologetic response struck many critics as downright cowardly in light of the NBA's high tolerance for political dissent in past cases. Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James has routinely traded insult tweets with President Donald Trump.

Two of the league's most successful coaches, Steve Kerr and Gregg Popovich, have spoken out on gun safety and immigration issues, but avoided taking sides in the China controversy. Yet Trump did not wait to criticize both and some others in the NBA for "pandering" to China.

Yet, the president—who is outspoken on just about every other issue on earth and beyond, including trade and tariff negotiations—is uncharacteristically mute on human rights in Hong Kong.

The president, like NBA owners and China's leaders, has his eye on the bottom line. With the world's largest population and one of its biggest economies, China will not be ignored, especially by the NBA, which says that country's professional basketball fans number about twice the U.S. population. The NBA also has a \$15 billion deal with a Chinese livestreaming company.

A big dent was put in that revenue stream when Chinese businesses and government retaliated against the objectionable tweet by canceling events, tearing down posters and declining to air the big exhibition game between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Brooklyn Nets on CCTV, the Chinese national television network.

Money talks. But what I find even more troubling is the apparent erosion of resistance to China's efforts to force Americans to censor themselves.

Deadspin published a memo from a senior ESPN news executive telling anchors to avoid political discussions about China and Hong Kong, and instead focus on the related basketball issues. CNN reporter Christina Macfarlane was interrupted by a Rockets media official when she asked Rockets stars James Harden and Russell Westbrook in a news conference whether the

By CLARENCE PAGE

Chicago Tribune



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recent events had changed their thoughts about speaking freely on political issues. Macfarlane herself was quickly shut down for asking a question that was insufficiently related to basketball. She later received an apology.

The sad truth of all this fuss, ethically speaking, is that Morey was right and the Chinese government was wrong. The demonstrators in Hong Kong deserve the right to free speech and were promised more democracy when the city was handed over by the British than Beijing has been willing to grant.

There was a time when we in the free world hoped that a taste of free market capitalism would bring enough rewards to all Chinese people and that they would crave more freedoms. Instead, China is now so economically huge—and growing—that its leaders have been content to bully their way around the block, and the globe.

The result for the past 40 years has been a mixture of free market capitalism and authoritarian governance that displays the worst lessons of capitalism. Essentially, everybody has their price, so take the profits and shut up about your political leadership.

That's a pretty persuasive message. All it requires is an absence of moral courage.

Matt Lauer's right to defend himself is an important part of #MeToo

In the wake of the #MeToo movement, "he said, she said," is quickly becoming, "she said, he cringed and remained silent." Another variation is, "she said, he apologized profusely and then resigned."

This would describe Al Franken, who did what he thought was the honorable thing even though many of his former colleagues now regret forcing him out of office (except for former Democratic presidential candidate Kirsten Gillibrand, emphasis on "former").

But some men—including, as of this week, Matt Lauer—have decided to change the paradigm and started to speak out after being accused of sexual misconduct. There was Brett Kavanaugh, who passionately defended himself against sexual assault allegations lodged on the eve of his confirmation. There is Pennsylvania State Sen. Daylin Leach, who has filed defamation actions against several parties (including my paper) for making or reporting accusations against him (what I call the, "she said, he sued" dynamic.)

Lauer is the most recent example of an accused male refusing to go gentle into that good night à la Dylan Thomas. The former broadcast star, whose meteoric rise included a stint here in Philadelphia and who became a household name as a long-running "Today" show anchor, was fired after stories of his extramarital affairs became public two years ago. At the time, Lauer re-

mained fairly silent, retreating into a family bubble as he tried to save his marriage and protect his children. The marriage ended, and so did Lauer's run as a public figure.

That was true until this past week, when accusations of rape exploded in anticipation of the release of Pulitzer Prize-winner Ronan Farrow's new book, "Catch and Kill: Lies, Spies, and a Conspiracy to Protect Predators," which details the reporting that launched the #MeToo movement. As dramatic as his retreat from public spotlight seemed in 2017, that was the tone of re-emergence this Wednesday when Lauer categorically denied accusations of rape made by Brooke Nevils, a former colleague at NBC. Lauer came out swinging in a public statement on the matter:

"It is alleged that an extramarital, but consensual, sexual encounter I have previously admitted having, was in fact an assault. It is categorically false, ignores the facts, and defies common sense."

In other words, Matt Lauer is speaking out in his own defense, something that many men have been too afraid to do for fear of being called sexist or misogynistic or other, more indelicate terms that have entered the lexicon thanks to a certain occupant of the White House.

#MeToo has spread the message that women need to find their voices and speak out when they feel they have been abused. As someone who works with female victims of domestic violence and who grew up with women who had been abused by their partners or relatives and never dared open their mouths, I celebrate any movement that encourages victims to tell their "truths"—as long as they are indeed truths. Unfortunately, one woman's vague, long-buried "fact" can be another man's defam-

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS

Philadelphia Daily News



Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.

atory, life-destroying fiction.

That is why it is as important to listen to the men who say, "I did not do this, this was not what happened," as it is not to shame women into silence or dismiss out of hand their uncorroborated accounts. We have to find that middle point between the two pendulum extremes of "excusing all men" and "believing all women."

I think that what Matt Lauer is doing is an important step. While his moral code, which apparently allows for serial adultery, is clearly flawed, that does not mean he should wear the label of "rapist" for the rest of his natural life, if he indeed did not commit rape.

Whenever people are given an opportunity to defend themselves against unconfirmed allegations, whether through lawsuits, public interviews, or impassioned statements in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee, we guarantee that our social and legal systems will be as fair as humanly possible. Guaranteeing that right for men, in this #MeToo era, is not another way of silencing women. It is the only way to make sure the truth is spoken and heard.

FBI

From Page 10

Section 702, the very act of searching without probable cause is a violation of privacy—even if the intention is to look for evidence of a crime.

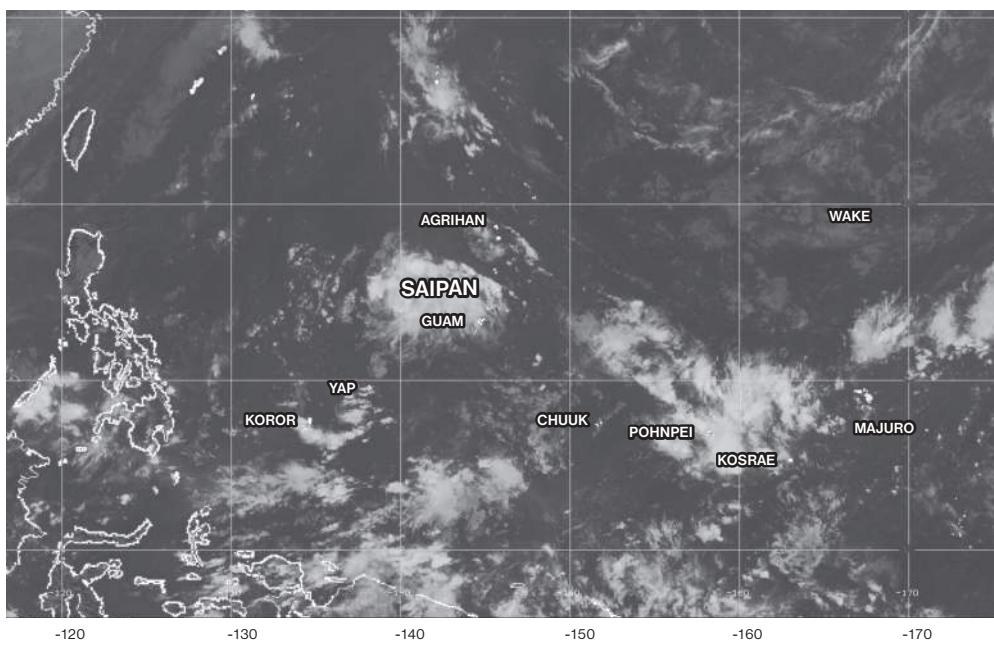
If Section 702 were completely consistent with the Fourth Amendment, investigators would need to obtain a warrant based on probable cause before they even searched for any American's communications, as Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) has proposed. Congress needs to revisit that idea.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
87°	78°	88°	78°	88°
78°	88°	78°	78°	89°
89°	78°	89°	78°	89°
78°	88°	78°	89°	78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:46 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A broad, but disorganized surface trough extends from north of Palau to the south of the Marianas with a couple weak circulations found along the trough. Isolated showers and thunderstorms are found across the Marianas while scattered showers are found well to the west and farther southeast near 10N150E. Buoys show seas between 5 and 6 feet across the area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	85°	/	77°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85°	/	78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86°	/	76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86°	/	81°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86°	/	81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Windy	63°	/	55°
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	63°	/	46°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	84°	/	73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87°	/	75°
London	Sunny	61°	/	52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82°	/	62°
Manila	Thunderstorm	91°	/	77°
Melbourne	Rain	63°	/	46°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	84°	/	77°
New York	Sunny	64°	/	55°
Osaka	Sunny	73°	/	57°
Paris	Showers	61°	/	50°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	70°	/	57°
Rome	Showers	75°	/	61°
Salem	Rain	72°	/	64°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	64°	/	50°
Seoul	Sunny	66°	/	45°
Tokyo	Showers	68°	/	57°
Washington, DC	Sunny	72°	/	58°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117 9:15am 9:57am Daily				UA174 7:30am 8:07am Daily			
UA105 6:25pm 7:05pm 2, 4				UA104 4:50pm 5:31pm 2, 4			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:30am 6:30am 4				7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			
7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7				7C3452 9:35pm 2:30am+1 3			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308 1:35am 5:20am Daily				7C3402 9:30am 3:10pm Daily			
OZ626 2:20am 6:00am 1				TW307 7:00pm 12:35am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			
OZ626 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				TW307 7:05pm 12:35am+1 1			
7C3403 4:45am 8:35am 1, 2, 3, 5, 7				OZ625 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7			
7C3403 5:00am 8:30am 4				OZ625 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6			
7C3403 5:00am 8:50am 6				7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 1, 2, 4, 6, 7			
7C3401 4:10pm 7:45pm 4, 7				7C3404 10:40pm 4:10am+1 3, 5			
7C3401 4:10pm 8:10pm 1, 2, 3, 5, 6							
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648 6:10am 8:50am 1, 4, 5, 7				3U8647 10:30pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396 7:30am 12:05pm 1				JD395 8:05am 3:30pm 4			
JD396 4:50pm 7:55pm 4				JD395 8:50pm 5:00am+1 7			
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646 4:30am 7:50am 2, 6				3U8645 8:10pm 3:10am+1 1, 5			
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764 1:30am 6:00am 3, 5, 7				MU763 4:50pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6			
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN				OZ702/625 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN			
OZ626/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				OZ702/625 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN			
UA117/183 9:15am 8:50pm 2, 5 via GUM				UA192/174 9:45pm 8:07am+1 2, 5 via GUM-ROR			
UA117/183 9:15am 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM				UA184/174 10:25pm 8:07am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			

Business

Brexit divorce talks between UK and EU go down to the wire

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told Cabinet colleagues that it will require a “significant amount of work” to strike a Brexit deal with the European Union, amid signs of progress in last-minute talks but also deep-seated skepticism about the chances of an agreement.

Britain is due to leave the 28-nation bloc on Oct. 31, and attempts to find a deal have foundered over plans for keeping an open border between EU member Ireland and the U.K.’s Northern Ireland.

The challenge of maintaining an invisible border—something that underpinned both the local economy and the region’s peace deal—has dominated Brexit discussions for three years, ever since U.K. voters chose in 2016 to leave the EU.

But negotiations intensified last week after Johnson



UK Brexit secretary Stephen Barclay, right, shakes hands with European Union chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier before their meeting at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels, Friday, Oct. 11, 2019. AP

Sunday that his party was unlikely to support any deal agreed upon by Johnson.

Lawmaker Nigel Dodds of Northern Ireland’s Democratic Unionist Party—which props up Johnson’s Conservative minority government—has rejected one suggested compromise, in which Northern Ireland stayed in a customs partnership with the EU in order to remove the need for border checks. The DUP strongly opposes any measures that would treat Northern Ireland differently than the rest of the U.K.

But other Brexit supporters signaled they could back such a deal. House of Commons leader Jacob Rees-Mogg, a strong Brexiteer, said a “compromise will inevitably be needed, something even the staunchest Leavers recognize, albeit unwillingly.”

Rees-Mogg told Sky News that the chances of a Brexit agreement were rising.

“I think it’s always difficult to put specific odds on things, but it certainly looks a lot more positive this week than it did last week,” he said.

California power outages highlight economic disparity

When the nation’s largest utility warned customers that it would cut power to nearly 2 million people across Northern California, many rushed out to buy portable generators, knowing the investment could help sustain them during blackouts.

Others had the security of knowing they could rely on solar panels and batteries installed in their homes.

But many families impacted by the blackouts are struggling from paycheck to paycheck and don’t have the luxury of buying backup power.

The blackouts are highlighting a divide in a region with growing income disparity where access to electricity is increasingly available to those who can afford to pay.

Communities in the San Francisco Bay Area are already reeling from economic imbalance as the tech industry has drawn well-off workers to the region, pushing lower- and middle-income families farther away from pricey city centers.

There are 1.7 million people in the Bay Area who don’t have the resources to meet their basic needs, according to Tipping Point, an organization that fights poverty in the region.

Generators and solar panels are the last things low-income families are thinking about during the blackout,

said Mary Kuhn, spokeswoman for Catholic Charities East Bay. Many are struggling with lost wages because restaurants or other businesses that pay by the hour temporarily closed.

“They’re facing, what am I going to feed my kids if I can’t cook and this food is spoiled? And how will I feed my kids next week?” Kuhn said.

Meanwhile, solar companies are seeing a spike in interest from customers seeking alternatives for when the power fails.

Sunrun, which leases and sells solar energy systems, said traffic to its web page which explains how to power through blackouts with its solar and battery systems increased 1,500% over the past few days.

Retired firefighter Derek Krause, who lives in Oakland, leases solar panels and a battery from Sunrun for about \$150 a month, which includes the cost of electricity.

Krause didn’t realize this week’s power outage had hit his neighborhood because his backup power kicked in when his neighbors’ lights turned off. PG&E’s promise to cut power more frequently was one of the reasons he decided to install the system in February.

“Having taught the public about self-sustainability during emergencies, it was important to me,” Krause said.

The European Commission’s EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier briefed ambassadors of the remaining 27 countries Sunday. The commission said in a statement that there had been “constructive technical-level” talks with the U.K. but “a lot of work remains to be done.”

It said discussions would continue Monday.

Johnson’s office said he told the Cabinet on Sunday in a conference call “that a

pathway to a deal could be seen but that there is still a significant amount of work to get there and we must remain prepared to leave on Oct. 31” even if there is no agreement.

If a Brexit deal is reached, it still needs to be approved by both British and European parliaments. Many British lawmakers—on both pro-Brexit and pro-EU sides of the debate—remain unconvinced.

Opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn said

Hunter Biden to step down from Chinese board

NEW YORK (AP)—Facing intense scrutiny from President Donald Trump and his Republican allies, Hunter Biden said Sunday he will step down from the board of directors of a Chinese-backed private equity firm at the end of the month as part of a pledge not to work on behalf of any foreign-owned companies should his father win the presidency.

Biden, the 49-year-old son of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, revealed his plan in an internet post written by his attorney, George Mesires, who outlined a defense of the younger Biden’s work in Ukraine and China, which has emerged as one of Trump’s chief lines of attack against Hunter’s father despite no proof of impropriety.

“Hunter makes the following commitment: Under a Biden Administration, Hunter will readily comply with any and all guidelines or standards a President Biden may issue to address purported conflicts of interest, or the appearance of

such conflicts, including any restrictions related to overseas business interests. In any event, Hunter will agree not to serve on boards of, or work on behalf of, foreign owned companies,” Mesires wrote.

He continued: “He will continue to keep his father personally uninvolved in his business affairs, while availing himself as necessary and appropriate to the Office of the White House Counsel to help inform his application of the Biden Administration’s guidelines or standards to his business decision-making.”

Joe Biden, speaking to reporters after a union forum in suburban Des Moines, Iowa, said his son did not discuss that decision with him before posting the statement.

“No one has asserted my son did a single thing wrong,” Biden added, pounding his finger into the podium, “except a lying president.”

And Biden promised to bar his family members from occupying any office within the White House and said they

won’t “sit in meetings as if they are a Cabinet member.” That was a jab at Trump, who taps daughter Ivanka and her husband, Jared Kushner, as advisers. Biden did not say if his pledge meant that Jill Biden, his wife, would not get the office traditionally assigned to first ladies, should he win.

He further vowed that no one in his family will have “any business relationship with anyone that relates to a foreign corporation or foreign country.”

Hunter Biden’s work overseas sits at the center of the House impeachment inquiry into Trump, who has admitted to asking foreign powers to investigate Hunter Biden’s business dealings abroad.

The White House released a rough transcript of a call in which Trump asks Ukraine’s new president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, to probe Biden’s family and Ukraine’s role in the 2016 election that put Trump in office. Trump has also encouraged China to dig

into Hunter Biden’s work in that country, asserting without evidence that earned \$1.5 billion from a “sweetheart” business deal there.

The president’s personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, is also under increasing scrutiny for his efforts to dig into Hunter Biden’s business background. Late last week, two businessmen involved in Giuliani’s efforts to investigate Hunter Biden’s dealings in Ukraine were charged with federal campaign finance violations.

Still, Republicans reacted to news of Hunter Biden’s decision to step away from the Chinese-backed BHR Equity Investment Fund Management Co. with deep skepticism.

“I think this is just another way to save a flailing campaign that’s going down,” Georgia Rep. Doug Collins, the top Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, said on Fox News Channel’s “Sunday Morning Futures.” “He knows he’s in trouble and this is just another way to try and detract attention

Nation

Ambassador to testify no quid pro quo assurance was Trump's

WASHINGTON (AP)—A U.S. ambassador is expected to tell Congress that his text message reassuring another envoy that there was no quid pro quo in their interactions with Ukraine was based solely on what President Donald Trump told him, according to a person familiar with his coming testimony in the impeachment probe.

Gordon Sondland, Trump's hand-picked ambassador to the European Union, is among administration officials being subpoenaed to appear on Capitol Hill this week against the wishes of the White House.

It's the latest test between the legislative and executive branches of government, as the impeachment inquiry by House Democrats deepens.

On Monday, the House panels leading the investigation expect to hear from Fiona Hill, a former top Russia expert at the National Security Council.

Sondland's appearance, set for Thursday, comes after a cache of text messages from top envoys provided a vivid account of their work acting as intermediaries around the time Trump urged Ukraine's new president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, to start investigations

into a company linked to the family of a chief Democratic presidential rival, Joe Biden.

One witness who may not be called before Congress is the still anonymous government whistleblower who touched off the impeachment inquiry. Top Democrats say testimony and evidence coming in from other witnesses, and even the president himself, are backing up the whistleblower's account of what transpired during Trump's July 25 phone call with Zelenskiy. Lawmakers have grown deeply concerned about protecting the person from Trump's threats

over the matter and may not wish to risk exposing the whistleblower's identity.

Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said Sunday, "We don't need the whistleblower, who wasn't on the call, to tell us what took place during the call. We have the best evidence of that."

Schiff said it "may not be necessary" to reveal the whistleblower's identity as the House gathers evidence. "Our primary interest right now is making sure that that person is protected," he said.

The impeachment inquiry

is testing the Constitution's system of checks and balances as the House presses forward with the probe and the White House dismisses it as "illegitimate" without a formal vote of the House to open impeachment proceedings.

In calling for a vote, the White House is trying to press House Democrats who may be politically reluctant to put their names formally behind impeachment. But House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has resisted those efforts and is unlikely to budge as Congress returns. Democrats say Congress is well within its power as the legislative branch to conduct oversight of the president and it is Republicans, having grown weary of Trump's actions, who may be in the greater political bind over a vote.

Rep. Jim Himes, D-Conn., said Sunday he'd be fine with taking a formal vote, "but it's not required."

"Look, my own opinion is that we ought to just take this off the table because it's such a non-issue, and there's no doubt in my mind that of course if Nancy Pelosi does that she will

have the votes and that will pass," Himes said.

Sondland's appearance comes after text messages from top ambassadors described their interactions leading up to Trump's call and the aftermath.

Sondland is set to tell lawmakers that he did understand the administration was offering Zelenskiy a White House visit in exchange for a public statement committing to investigations Trump wanted, according to the person, who demanded anonymity to discuss remarks not yet given.

But Sondland will say he did not know the company being talked about for an investigation, Burisma, was tied to Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden, the person said. Sondland understood the discussions about combating corruption to be part of a much broader and publicized Trump administration push that was widely shared, the person said.

In the text exchange, the diplomats raised alarm that Trump appeared to up the ante, withholding military aid to Ukraine over the investigation.



In this July 10, 2018, file photo, President Donald Trump is joined by Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union, second from right, as he arrives at Melsbroek Air Base, in Brussels, Belgium.

Impeachment dominates, but much other work awaits Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Impeachment may have leapfrogged to the top of the national agenda, but members of Congress still have their day jobs as legislators, and they're returning to Washington this coming week with mixed hopes of success.

Full Coverage: Trump impeachment inquiry

It's a volatile, difficult-to-predict time in Washington as lawmakers end a two-week break. The notion that President Donald Trump could do much significant dealmaking with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, his impeachment antagonist, could be fanciful, given Trump's impulsiveness and demands for border wall money.

An important trade agreement pact has a pulse. An effort to deal with high prescription drug prices seems stuck. Pelosi, D-Calif., is aware of the political imperative to

avoid looking tied up in impeachment while leaving the rest of the nation's business hanging. At a recent news conference she solicited questions on topics such as trade before turning to impeachment, reminding that the Democratic-controlled House has sent bill after bill to the GOP-led Senate, which has done little else but vote on presidential nominations for months.

Divided government has produced scant results thus far, except for a small-scale budget deal that lawmakers are struggling to put in place. The next few months could prove make or break for high-profile agenda items such as an updated trade agreement with Canada and Mexico, a full slate of spending bills and prescription drug legislation. Pelosi insists impeachment doesn't have to harm the legislative agenda in Washington.

"They have nothing to do with each other," Pelosi said earlier this month. "We have a responsibility to uphold our oath of office, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. We also have a responsibility to get the job done for the American people."

The atmosphere isn't exactly brimming with optimism. Hopes for a near-term breakthrough on trade, one of the few items on which Pelosi and Republicans are in general alignment, faded after AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka issued a combative warning against a speedy vote on the new North American pact.

On spending, negotiators are trying to push through a \$1.4 trillion package of agency spending bills to fill in the details of this summer's budget-and-debt accord. Experienced bargainers such as GOP Sen. Richard

Shelby of Alabama, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, are taking the lead on that but lingering bitterness over the U.S.-Mexico wall fight threatens to again delay a resolution. That's particularly so after Trump's attacked lawmakers' traditional power of the purse by raiding military construction projects to finance wall construction.

Given the uncertainty, lawmakers may end up doing what they do best: Kicking the can down the road.

Months-late enactment of the annual agency appropriations bills is increasingly common in Washington, and it's clear that another temporary government-wide funding bill will be needed when the current one expires in six weeks. Likewise, there's no hard and fast deadline for ratifying an important trade pact with Mexico and Canada that an administration priority.

New Orleans hotel collapse: Search on for a missing worker

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Rescue crews on Sunday searched for a worker missing in the partial collapse of a New Orleans hotel that was under construction, their work proceeding cautiously amid fears about the stability of the structure, authorities said.

Officials declined to say if they have any indication whether the missing worker is alive after Saturday's collapse. New Orleans Fire Chief Tim McConnell said they are treating their work as a rescue mission until they have evidence the missing person is dead along with two other people killed when a large part of the Hard Rock Hotel project crashed down near the city's historic French Quarter.

"Safety is the No. 1 thing. The last thing you want to do when you are trying to rescue somebody is lose someone else," McConnell said at a news conference Sunday.

Several floors of the hotel toppled down Saturday amid blinding dust and flying debris. WWL-TV obtained a viewer's dramatic video of upper floors collapsing Saturday before one side of the building crashed to the street.

New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell told media outlets later Sunday that the body of one of the two dead has been recovered and the coroner's office is working to identify the victim.

Thirty people were injured. Only one remains in the hospital. The mayor visited the man, who had surgery for a leg injury.

"He told me it could have been worse. He wanted to make sure his co-workers were safe. He was envisioning the two who were on the floor with him," Cantrell said.

Crews on Sunday were assembling a 220,000-pound (99,800-kilogram) crane driven into the city overnight to begin the delicate process of removing the large amount of fallen debris, McConnell said.

"Our original estimate to get a crane was two weeks. We got it here in less than 24 hours," McConnell said.

The project's contractor, Citadel Builders LLC, was flying in engineers from Europe to help crews remove debris without risking the life of the missing person or nearby buildings and aid in the investigation, officials said.

Asia

Typhoon leaves as many as 33 dead as Japan continues rescue

TOKYO (AP)—Helicopters, boats and thousands of troops were deployed across Japan to rescue people stranded in flooded homes Sunday, as the death toll from a ferocious typhoon climbed to as high as 33. One woman fell to her death as she was being placed inside a rescue helicopter.

Typhoon Hagibis made landfall south of Tokyo on Saturday evening and battered central and northern Japan with torrents of rain and powerful gusts of wind. The typhoon was downgraded to a tropical storm on Sunday.

Public broadcaster NHK said 14 rivers across the nation had flooded, some spilling out in more than one spot.

The Tokyo Fire Department said a woman in her 70s was accidentally dropped 40 meters (131 feet) to the ground while being transported into a rescue helicopter in Iwaki city in Fukushima prefecture, a northern area devastated by the typhoon.

Department officials held a news conference to apolo-



Debris caused by Typhoon Hagibis are left on a street in Motomiya, Fukushima prefecture, Japan Monday, Oct. 14, 2019. AP

gize, bowing deeply and long, according to Japanese custom, and acknowledged the woman had not been strapped in properly.

The government's Fire and Disaster Management Agency, which tends to be conservative in its counts, said late Sunday that 14 people died, 11 were missing and 187 were injured as a result of the typhoon. It said 1,283 homes were flooded and 517 were damaged, partially or totally.

Japanese media tallies were higher. Kyodo News agency reported that 33 people died and 19 were missing.

"The major typhoon has caused immense damage far and wide in eastern Japan," government spokesman Yo-

shihide Suga told reporters.

News footage showed a rescue helicopter hovering in a flooded area in Nagano prefecture where an embankment of the Chikuma River broke, and streams of water were continuing to spread over residential areas. The chopper plucked those stranded on the second floor of a home submerged in muddy waters.

Aerial footage showed tractors at work trying to control the flooding and several people on a rooftop, with one waving a white cloth to get the attention of a helicopter. Near-

by was a child's school bag. In another part of Nagano, rows of Japan's prized bullet trains, parked in a facility, were sitting in a pool of water.

Your browser does not support the HTML tag. Try viewing this in a modern browser like Chrome, Safari, Firefox or Internet Explorer 9 or later.

A section of the city of Date in Fukushima prefecture was also flooded, with only rooftops of residential homes visible in some areas, and rescuers paddled in boats to get people out. Parts of nearby Miyagi prefecture were also underwater.

Several train services in the Tokyo area resumed early in the morning, while others restarted later.

Ruling party politician Fumio Kishida said the government would do its utmost in rescue operations, including making sure that those who moved to shelters were taken care of.

He acknowledged that Japan's power grids need to be strengthened so people in disaster areas can rely on timely information.

PH police chief resigns amid drug allegations

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine national police chief resigned on Monday after he faced allegations in a Senate hearing that he intervened as a provincial police chief in 2013 to prevent his officers from being prosecuted for allegedly selling a huge quantity of illegal drugs they had seized.

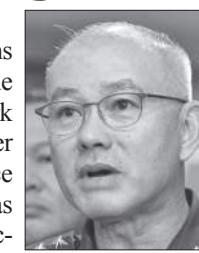
Gen. Oscar Albayalde said his decision relinquishing his post was accepted by Interior Secretary Eduardo Ano over the weekend but insisted on his innocence, saying he has never been criminally or administratively charged for the alleged irregularity. Albayalde resigned a few weeks before his scheduled retirement on Nov. 8.

Addressing the 190,000-strong police force in the last flag-raising ceremony he led at the national police headquarters, Albayalde ordered the policemen to continue serving the Filipino people well. "Do not let these challenges demoralize or stray you from your

path," he said.

The allegations against Albayalde were the latest dark cloud to loom over the national police force, which has largely been enforcing President Rodrigo Duterte's bloody anti-drug crackdown that has left thousands of mostly petty drug suspects dead, alarmed Western governments and human rights groups and sparked complaints for mass murder before the International Criminal Court.

Albayalde headed the police force in Pampanga province north of Manila when 13 of his officers seized a large quantity of methamphetamine, a powerful and prohibited stimulant, in a raid. The officers later faced allegations that they presented a small fraction of the seized drugs in a news conference, possibly to foster their promotion, then hid and sold the rest, with suspicions being fueled when they purchased pricey



Albayalde

SUVs not long after.

Albayalde's men allegedly freed a suspected Chinese drug lord in exchange for a huge bribe then arrested another foreigner, who they presented as the owner of the seized drugs.

Albayalde pointed out that state prosecutors cleared the officers of criminal complaints they had faced for the alleged offenses.

Albayalde said the allegations against him may have been an offshoot of jockeying for the top police post that he would vacate if he has stayed in his post until his retirement. But two police officials, including a general who has retired from the force and is now a city mayor, testified in Senate hearings that Albayalde did not take adequate actions to have his men be criminally prosecuted.

One of the two officials, Aaron Aquino, who now heads the Philippine Drug En-

forcement Agency, testified that Albayalde called him then to inquire about the status of the cases against his men.

Albayalde acknowledged that as a result of the 2013 incident, he was put on a "floating status," which meant he was transferred to a regional police force without being given any specific assignment or post. Several months after, however, he was appointed as metropolitan Manila police chief and as national police chief in April last year.

"No protest was made on my appointment," Albayalde said. "Implicitly, it may be assumed that the president himself was aware of my appointment to that position."

Asked in recent weeks about the possibility of firing Albayalde, Duterte replied he would allow Ano to make a recommendation to him after an assessment. The wait contrasts with Duterte's outright firing of other government officials accused of corruption and irregularities.

World

Turkish forces say they've captured key Syrian border town

CEYLANPINAR, Turkey (AP)—Turkey's military said it captured a key Syrian border town under heavy bombardment Saturday in its most significant gain since an offensive against Kurdish fighters began four days ago, with no sign of relenting despite mounting international criticism.

Turkish troops entered central Ras al-Ayn, according to Turkey's Defense Ministry and a war monitor group. The ministry tweeted: "Ras al-Ayn's residential center has been taken under control through the successful operations in the east of Euphrates" River. It marked the biggest gain made by Turkey since the invasion began Wednesday.

The continued push by Turkey into Syria comes days after President Donald Trump pulled U.S. forces out of the area, making Turkey's air and ground offensive possible, and said he wanted to stop getting involved with "endless wars." Trump's decision drew swift bipartisan criticism that he was endangering regional stability and risking the lives of Syrian Kurdish allies who brought down the Islamic State group in Syria. The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces was the main U.S. ally in the fight and lost 11,000 fighters in the nearly five-year battle against IS.

Turkish troops and allied Syrian opposition fighters have made gains recently capturing several northern villages in



Turkish-backed Syrian opposition fighters celebrate in Akcakale, in Sanliurfa province advance, after entering over the border from Tal Abyad, Syria, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019. AP

fighting and bombardment that left dozens of people killed or wounded. The invasion also has forced nearly 100,000 people to flee their homes amid concerns that IS might take advantage of the chaos and try to rise again after its defeat in Syria earlier this year.

The Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF, said the United States should carry out its "moral responsibilities" and close northern Syrian airspace

to Turkish warplanes, but that it didn't want the U.S. to send its soldiers "to the front lines and put their lives in danger."

During a meeting Saturday in Cairo, the 22-member Arab League condemned what it described as "Turkey's aggression against Syria" and warned that Ankara will be responsible for the spread of terrorism following its invasion. The league said Arab states might take some measures against Ankara.

France's defense and foreign ministries said Saturday that the country was halting exports of any arms to Turkey that could

be used in its offensive.

Foreign Minister Heiko Maas also announced that Germany would curtail its arms exports to Turkey. Maas told the weekly *Bild am Sonntag* that "against the background of the Turkish military offensive in northeastern Syria, the government will not issue any new permissions for any weapons that can be used by

Ras al-Ayn is one of the biggest towns along the border and is in the middle of the area where Turkey plans to set up its safe zone. The ethnically and religiously mixed town with a population of Arabs, Kurds, Armenians and Syriac Christians had been under the control of Kurdish fighters since 2013. IS members tried to enter Ras al-Ayn following their rise in Syria and Iraq in 2014 but failed.

US pulling out of northern Syria; full withdrawal possible

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States appears to be heading toward a full military withdrawal from Syria amid growing chaos, cries of betrayal and signs that Turkey's invasion could fuel a broader war.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Sunday that President Donald Trump had directed U.S. troops in northern Syria to begin pulling out "as safely and quickly as possible." He did not say Trump ordered troops to leave Syria, but that seemed like the next step in a combat zone growing more unstable by the hour.

Esper, interviewed on two TV news shows, said the administration was considering its options.

"We have American forces likely caught between two opposing advancing armies and it's a very untenable situation," Esper said.

This seemed likely to herald the end of a five-year effort to partner with Syrian Kurdish and Arab fighters to ensure a

lasting defeat of the Islamic State group. Hundreds of IS supporters escaped a holding camp amid clashes between invading Turkish-led forces and Kurdish fighters, and analysts said an IS resurgence seemed more likely, just months after Trump declared the extremists defeated.

The U.S. has had about 1,000 troops in northeastern Syria allied with the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces to combat IS. The Pentagon previously had pulled about 30 of these troops from the Turkish attack zone along the border. With an escalation of violence, a widening of the Turkish incursion and the prospect of a deepening conflict, all U.S. forces along the border will now follow that move. It was unclear where they would go.

The Kurds then turned to the Syrian government and Russia for military assistance, further complicating the battlefield.

The prospect of enhancing the Syrian government's position on the battlefield and inviting Russia to get more directly involved is seen by Trump's critics as a major mistake. But he tweeted that it shouldn't matter.

It called on the U.N. Security Council to force Turkey to stop the offensive.

The Turkish offensive was widely criticized by Syria and some Western countries, which called on Turkey to cease its military operations.

France's defense and foreign ministries said Saturday that the country was halting exports of any arms to Turkey that could

Ecuador indigenous, president strike deal to end protests

QUITO, Ecuador (AP)—President Lenín Moreno and leaders of Ecuador's indigenous peoples struck a deal late Sunday to cancel a disputed austerity package and end nearly two weeks of protests that have paralyzed the economy and left seven dead.

Under the agreement announced just before 10 p.m., Moreno will withdraw the International Monetary Fund-backed package known as Decree 883 that included a sharp rise in fuels. Indigenous leaders, in turn, will call on their followers to end protests and street blockades.

"Comrades, a deal is compromise on both sides," Moreno said. "The indigenous mobilization will end and Decree 883 will be lifted."

The two sides will work together to develop a new package of measures to cut government spending, increase revenues and reduce Ecuador's unsustainable budget deficits and public debt.

"The moment of peace, of agreement, has come for Ecuador," said Arnaud Peral, the

United Nations' resident coordinator in Ecuador and one of the mediators of the nationally televised talks, which started about 6 p.m. "This deal is an extraordinary step."

Wearing the feathered head-dress and face paint of the Achuar people of the Amazon rain forest, the president of the Confederation of Indigenous Nations, Jaime Vargas, thanked Moreno and demanded improved long-term conditions for indigenous Ecuadorians.

"We want peace for our brothers and sisters in this country," Vargas said. "We don't want more repression."

Protests over the austerity package have blocked roads, shuttered businesses from dairies to flower farms and halved Ecuador's oil production, forcing a temporary halt to the country's most important export.

In a shift from the heated language of the last 10 days of protests, each side at the negotiations praised the other's willingness to talk as they outlined their positions in the first

Turkey in Syria."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Friday that Turkey won't stop until the Syrian Kurdish forces withdraw at least 32 kilometers (20 miles) from the border.

During the capture of Ras al-Ayn's residential center, an Associated Press journalist across the border heard sporadic clashes as Turkish howitzers struck the town and Turkish jets screeched overhead. Syrian Kurdish forces appeared to be holding out in some areas of the town.

The SDF released two videos said to be from inside Ras al-Ayn, showing fighters saying that it was Saturday and they were still there.

The fighting was ongoing as the Kurdish fighters sought to reverse the Turkish advance into the city, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based war monitor.

Ras al-Ayn is one of the biggest towns along the border and is in the middle of the area where Turkey plans to set up its safe zone. The ethnically and religiously mixed town with a population of Arabs, Kurds, Armenians and Syriac Christians had been under the control of Kurdish fighters since 2013. IS members tried to enter Ras al-Ayn following their rise in Syria and Iraq in 2014 but failed.

hour before a short break.

Other indigenous demands included higher taxes on the wealthy and the firing of the interior and defense ministers over their handling of the protests.

"From our heart, we declare that we, the peoples and nations, have risen up in search of liberty," Vargas said. "We recognize the bravery of the men and women who rose up."

Earlier in the day, hundreds of black-clad riot police drove protesters out of north-central Quito's Arbolito Park, the epicenter of the protests, and into surrounding streets.

The park had filled Friday with mostly peaceful protesters chanting against the government. But by Sunday afternoon the air was white with smoke from burning tires and tear gas after more than 24 hours of clashes between police and hard-core protesters armed with sharpened sticks and shields improvised out of satellite dishes or plywood. Adjoining streets were piled high with burned tires, tree branches and paving stones.

Focus

NEW YORK (AP)—So is red meat good or bad for you? If the answer were only that simple.

A team of international researchers recently rattled the nutrition world by saying there isn't enough evidence to tell people to cut back on red or processed meat, seemingly contradicting advice from prominent health experts and groups including the American Cancer Society and American Heart Association.

But the researchers didn't say people should eat more meat, or that it's healthy. No new studies were conducted, and they reported no new understanding of meat's effects on the body. Instead, the papers offer a new approach to giving advice about food and health—and a rebuke to how it's often done.

The dispute lays bare problems with nutrition research long acknowledged in the scientific world: Nutrition studies are almost never conclusive, and whatever supposed risk and benefits there are to any food are often oversimplified.

"People like bumper sticker guidance," said Dr. Walter Willett, a professor of nutrition at Harvard who has led studies tying meat to bad health.

Now health experts are wrestling with how solid scientific findings should be before guidance is issued, how to address biases that might skew conclusions and whether the pleasure we get from eating should be considered.

The scrutiny is likely to spill over to other dietary advice as obesity becomes an ever more critical public health concern, and people become increasingly frustrated with flip-flopping messages.

MEAT TWO WAYS

The papers analyzed past studies on red and processed meat and generally corroborated the links to cancers, heart disease and other bad health outcomes. But they said the chance of any benefit from eating less of them appeared small or negligible.

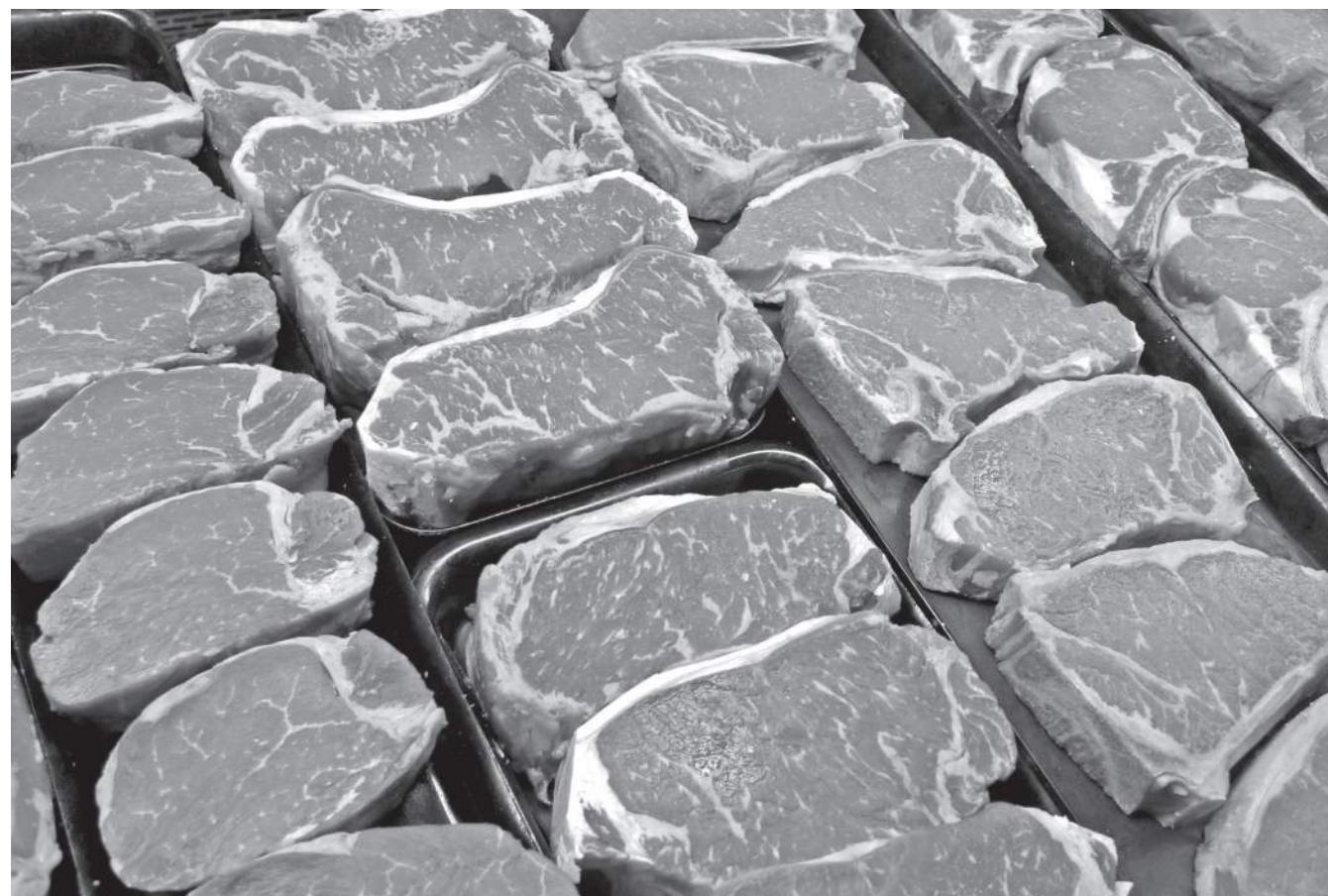
For every 1,000 people, for instance, cutting back on red meat by three servings a week was linked to seven fewer deaths from cancer. For some other health measures, like strokes, the difference was smaller or nonexistent.

What's more, the researchers said there's little certainty meat was the reason for the differences.

Uncertainty is common in nutrition research. Many studies about food and health are based on links researchers make between people's health and what they say they eat. But that doesn't prove one causes the other. If a thin person loves cereal and eats it

Who says you can't eat red meat?

Food advice questioned anew



In this Jan. 18, 2010 file photo, steaks and other beef products are displayed for sale at a grocery store in McLean, Va. On Sept. 30, 2019, a team of international researchers recently rattled the nutrition world by saying there isn't enough evidence to tell people to cut back on red or processed meat, seemingly contradicting advice from prominent health experts and groups including the American Cancer Society and American Heart Association. But the researchers didn't say people should eat more meat, or that it's healthy.

By CANDICE CHOI
AP FOOD & HEALTH WRITER

nearly every day, for instance, that doesn't mean cereal is the reason they're thin.

Health experts who defend advice to cut back meat say the researchers were applying an unreasonable standard—evaluating the strength of the meat studies with a method intended for medical studies, where a specific dose of drug can be tested under controlled conditions.

With nutrition, they say it's impossible to conduct studies where people's diets and lifestyles are controlled and monitored over long periods. They say the statistical signals they see in nutrition studies are meaningful, and that people should be given guidance on the best available data.

THE PERSON VS. THE POPULATION

If it's true that there would be

seven fewer cancer deaths for every 1,000 people who cut back on red meat, then it is also true that 993 of those people would not see that benefit even if they ate fewer burgers.

For many public health experts, the potential for those seven fewer deaths is worth making a broad recommendation to limit meat. Across an entire population, the numbers could add up to many lives saved.

But the question is where to draw the line, and at what point the potential benefit is too small and uncertain to ask people to change their behavior.

The authors also argue the individual being asked to change their behavior should be considered. For those who regularly eat and enjoy meat, cutting back on it may seem drastic if all they are getting in return is a small reduction in

risk, if any at all.

"Recommendations should consider the values and preferences of people who actually bear the consequences," said Bradley Johnston, lead author of the papers, who specializes in research methodologies.

TILTING THE EVIDENCE

Given the uncertainties of nutrition science, another long-running concern is the potential for findings to be skewed by personal beliefs or financial incentives.

The latest papers were no exception, with critics and supporters each pointing to factors that could have influenced the others' position.

Critics noted Johnston, the lead author, undermined another dietary recommendation in the past. He previously led a study funded by the food industry that challenged guide-

lines to limit added sugars, which serves the interests of many food companies. That paper initially said the authors independently wrote the plan for the study. After emails obtained by the Associated Press showed the industry group sent "requested revisions," the paper was corrected to say the group reviewed and approved the plan.

Johnston and supporters of the papers countered, saying critics have long advised people to limit meat and could feel the need to defend their position.

The back-and-forth underscores the difficulty of ruling out the biases any researcher is likely to have, given the amount of industry money in nutrition research and the strong beliefs people often have about food.

Meat is an especially polarizing topic, given the animal

welfare and environmental consequences that come with it.

That could further confuse people about who or what to believe, or they just focus on research that backs up what they want to believe.

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Wherever researchers stand on meat, there's agreement that the nuances of nutrition science often get lost in translation. Foods are often labeled as good or bad, even when researchers try to be nuanced.

Take red meat. The advice to "limit" it often doesn't specify by how much, which could lead people to think cutting back is good regardless of the context. But in poorer countries, red meat might help improve diets. In richer countries, Willett said the benefits of cutting back would vary depending on what replaces it, and that pizza might not be an improvement.

Still, Willett and others who criticized last week's papers say the many Americans who eat red meat once a day or more could benefit from eating less.

There's no consistent recommendation for an acceptable amount. The American Cancer Society's experts say "a few" servings a week or less. A study by Willett, which also addressed the environmental impact of food, advised a limit of one serving a week.

Public health experts want to give people advice that's easy to communicate. But most acknowledge that doing a better job of conveying nuances and uncertainties could help prevent mistrust and confusion.

SO WHAT SHOULD WE EAT?

Already, the U.S. dietary guidelines have backpedaled on advice to limit total fat, which has been blamed for encouraging people to eat too much pasta and cookies.

In the years since, the guidelines have focused on the saturated fat found in foods like meat, butter and some packaged foods, saying it should be limited to 10% of calories.

As advice around specific foods changes, health experts have increasingly focused on the importance of overall diets. Some note focusing on single foods, which often have a complex mix of nutrients, can also distract from a simpler message: Don't eat too much, since eating more calories than you burn makes you gain weight.

"If everyone would just pay attention to that one, we would solve a lot of problems," said Marion Nestle, a professor of nutrition and food policy at New York University.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:



Ford updates the best-selling F-150 for 2019 with more choices and tech

The 2019 Ford F-150. TNS

By EMMA JAYNE WILLIAMS
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

For 2019, the Ford F-150 pickup from America's truck leader has some exciting upgrades and additions.

Tough, smart and capable, the F-150 has class-leading capability, outperforming others whether hauling cargo in the bed or towing a trailer, making the toughest task look easy on the job or on a fun weekend.

With seven trims available, priced from \$28,155 to \$67,135, there is an F-150 for any need.

The F-150 is popular with work fleets and offers options such as Ford Telematic Prep to monitor vehicles with GPS tracing and geofencing on a live map, get live vehicle health alerts, set reminders for service or inspection, monitor fuel usage, and monitor driver behavior to help improve safety. Alternative-fuel engines are also available for fleet use.

My F-150 Lariat Supercrew (\$47,985) had a second-generation 3.5-liter EcoBoost V-6 engine with start/stop technology, more horsepower (375) and best-in-class 470 foot-pounds of torque.

Improvements include Ford-first port fuel and direct injection with two injectors per cylinder to improve power and efficiency, all-new twin turbos for greater on-demand power, and a more-responsive high-end-efficient 10-speed automatic transmission with Tow/Haul, Snow/Wet, Eco Select, and Sport modes.

The advanced 10-speed transmission brings improved performance and enhanced acceleration compared with the six-speed it replaced, as well as three overdrive gears.

Two-speed automatic four-wheel drive with neutral towing capacity is standard for 4WD F-150s. Shift-on-the-fly allows changing from two-wheel drive to 4WD low or high with the turn of a dial. My Lariat also had automatic 4WD.

Adaptive Cruise Control with Stop-and-Go (\$1,250) maintained a set speed and distance from the vehicle ahead, automatically accelerating and braking, even coming to a complete stop in traffic and resuming when traffic resumed. If stopped for more than three seconds, driver intervention is necessary.

My Lariat had most of the basic features and equipment everyone expects, and added lots of packages and options, starting with a Lariat Series package for \$7,050 with Blind Spot Information System/Cross-Traffic Alert and Trailer Tow Monitoring (for the trailer as well as the vehicle); remote start system with remote tailgate release; reverse sensing system (detects objects while slowly reversing, an audible signal increases in frequency and volume); LED side-mirror spotlights for working after dark; and a 110-volt outlet.

Also included were a universal garage door opener; leather-trimmed bucket seats — heated/ventilated 10-way driver/passenger seats with power lumbar and memory driver's seat; heated steering wheel; LED fog lights; heated second-row seats; power tilt/telescoping steering column with memory; quad beam LED headlights and taillights; rain-sensing wipers, and windshield wiper de-icer.

The included B&O sound system brought a customized audio experience with specifically tailored speaker placement, tuning, and calibration; monitoring background noise; up to 1,000 watts of power and 10 speakers.

A Lariat Sport Appearance package (\$300) added 18-inch, six-spoke machined-aluminum wheels with Magnetic (dark gray) painted pockets, all-season/all-terrain tires, body color grille (Magma Red, deep brownish red with red flecks) with two large bars/four minor bars, black surround and black mesh, body-color bumpers, FX 4WD Off-Road box side decals, bucket seats, chrome

single-tip exhaust, and unique interior finish (subtle gray basket-weave design).

Automatic on/off headlights with automatic high beams and daytime running lights worked with the rain-sensing wipers, turning on when the wipers were activated. Two large chrome tow hooks were located near the outer bumper.

The cargo box featured Box Link, a flexible, configurable system to secure accessories such as ramps, storage bins, dividers and much more.

My Lariat had four cleats, locked into place on the bed sides, capable of holding 275 pounds across the box and 600 pounds diagonally.

Standard were four fixed floor tie-downs, a center high-mounted stop light with integrated cargo lamp, LED lights near the tailgate, power tailgate lock, and a power-sliding tinted rear glass with defroster. A spray-in Toughbed bedliner (\$595) protected the bed from scratches when I hauled a load to the dump.

Power Deployable Running Boards — one of my favorite features (\$995) — extended when a door opened. The twin-panel power moon roof (\$1,495) offered a more-expansive sky view.

A Tailgate Step with Tailgate Lift Assist (F-150 class-exclusive, \$375) extended out from the dropped tailgate; a pushbutton released the apparatus, the step dropped down and a handle pulled out and turned up for grasping — another favorite feature.

An FX4 Off-Road package (\$905) prepared the Lariat with hill-descent control, off-road tuned front shocks, skid plates on the fuel tank, transfer case and front differential, and tray-style floor liners. A 3.31 electronic-locking rear axle was replaced by a 3.55 electronic-locking rear axle in a Max Trailer Tow Package (\$1,295).

The tow package also brought a 36-gallon fuel tank, auxiliary transmission oil cooler, engine oil cooler,

Pro Trailer Backup Assist with Tailgate LED, integrated trailer brake controller, upgraded front stabilizer bar, and upgraded rear bumper.

The 3.5-liter EcoBoost engine is required with this package, along with max springs. A Smart Trailer Tow Connector, Class IV trailer hitch receiver, four-/seven-pin wiring harness, and Trailer Sway Control are standard on the Lariat.

Trailer Backup Assist helps guide the trailer by turning a knob in the desired direction to let the truck steer itself. A Smart Trailer Tow Connector, part of the rearview camera, features a black line in the center that turns in the direction of the steering wheel to help position the hitch to the trailer.

Power-folding, Power Scope telescoping, power dual-glass tow mirrors with heat, turn signal, memory, auto-dimming (driver's side), high-intensity LED security approach lamps, and LED spotlights with black skullcaps added \$250.

A Technology package (\$1,195) included a 360-degree camera with split-view display, Active Park Assist and Lane-Keeping System. Active park helps identify a suitable parking space, then helps steer the truck into the space while the driver controls acceleration and braking.

My Key technology allows programming of the key to limit top speed, remind front seat passengers to fasten seat belts with a chime and by muting the radio, block Sirius XM stations (five-year subscription included) labeled "explicit," and provide an earlier low-fuel warning. Driving/safety features can't be deactivated, and audio volume can be limited to 44 percent. My Key can assist fleet owners as well as parents to promote good driving habits.

My F-150 Lariat had lots of storage space in the front and rear cabin — multiple pockets on all doors, large shallow dash tray, extra-large console bin with removable tray with coin

slots, long shallow console side bins, and a narrow console slot for phone, pen, or other small objects.

Power-adjustable pedals with memory were standard (good for short women who drive trucks). The rear 60/40 bench seat cushions folded up against the back of the cab, increasing the interior cargo area.

Sync3 offered voice-activated communications, entertainment, and information, with an eight-inch screen displaying the most-used features with easy-to-read text and icons. The screen responded quickly to a light tap or swiping/pinch for some features.

A voice-activated touch-screen navigation system with Sirius XM Traffic and Travel Link (\$795) increased the functionality of the Sync system.

Ford Pass Connect supplied Wi-Fi for up to 10 devices at once. Multiple power points included two 110-volt outlets, three 12-volt outlets, and four USB ports.

Safety and security were addressed with Pre-Collision with Automatic Emergency Braking, Advance Trac with Roll Stability Control and yaw control (reduces fishtailing), Curve Control, SecuriCode keyless entry keypad (driver's side), SOS post-crash alert system (flashes turn signals, sounds the horn at four-second intervals), and SecuriLock passive anti-theft system (engine immobilizer).

My F-150 Lariat was EPA rated at 17 mpg city/23 highway/19 combined. I drove around the neighborhood and on a couple of gnarly gravel/dirt mountain roads and averaged 16.3 mpg. The ride was smooth (on the paved roads).

The Lariat was easy to drive, roomy and comfortable, and controls were easy to reach and use.

With \$16,250 total options and \$1,595 destination charges, my capable, versatile, loaded 2019 F-150 Lariat FX4 4WD delivered for \$65,830.

Life & Style



Which streaming service is right for you?

By TRACY BROWN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The television landscape is set for a seismic shift in the coming months, with the arrival of new streaming platforms Apple TV+, Disney+, HBO Max and NBCUniversal's Peacock. These new options enter an already booming landscape, with established streamers like Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime and CBS All Access offering their own lineups of buzzy original series and libraries of binge-able favorites from years past.

Here's our one-stop comparison shopping guide to how the major streaming services stack up.

NETFLIX

Bottom line: The streaming service trying to be everything to everybody

Price: The \$12.99 per month standard plan allows for streaming on



two different devices simultaneously and includes high-definition video when available. There is also a basic plan for \$8.99 a month and a premium plan for \$15.99 a month.

Launch date: Streaming since 2007

Back catalog titles: "Breaking Bad," "Mad Men," "Grey's Anatomy," "Schitt's Creek," "NCIS," future home of "Seinfeld" (2021)

Original series: "House of Cards," "Orange Is the New Black,"

"Stranger Things," "Black Mirror," "Big Mouth"

AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

Bottom line: How about some TV to go with your free shipping?

Price: \$12.99 per month or \$119 a



year for a full Amazon Prime membership, which includes shipping, video, music and more. \$8.99 per month for Prime Video only.

Launch date: Evolved into Prime's video-on-demand service in 2011

Back catalog titles: "Downton Abbey," "The Americans," "Orphan Black," "Mr. Robot," "Magnum P.I."

Original series: "Transparent," "Fleabag," "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "Catastrophe," "Bosch"

HULU

Bottom line: The place to catch up on current network shows and recent cable favorites



Price: \$5.99 per month with ads, or ad-free for \$11.99 per month. (Plans with live TV are also available, starting at \$44.99 per month.)

Launch date: Subscription component launched in 2010.

Back catalog titles: "Adventure Time," "Key & Peele," "How I Met Your Mother," "Atlanta," "The Shield," "Scrubs"

Original series: "The Handmaid's Tale," "Marvel's Runaways," "The Act," "Casual," "Four Weddings and a Funeral"

CBS ALL ACCESS

Bottom line: For fans of "Star Trek," "The Good Wife" and CBS classics of yore

CBS ALL ACCESS[†]

Price: \$5.99 per month (or \$59.99 per year) with ads; \$9.99 per month (or \$99.99 per year) ad-free

Launch date: The first of the Big Three TV networks to launch a stand-alone streaming service in 2014

Back catalog titles: "Caroline in the City," "Hawaii Five-O," "JAG," "Under the Dome," one of the non-exclusive homes of all the "Star Trek" shows

Original series: "Star Trek: Discovery," "The Twilight Zone," "The Good Fight," "Why Women Kill," "Star Trek: Picard"

APPLE TV+



Bottom line: The prestige TV you know, but with Silicon Valley polish

Price: \$4.99 per month

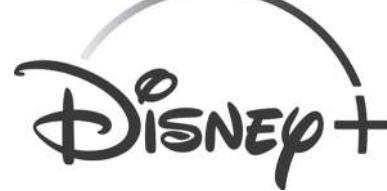
Launch date: Nov. 1

Back catalog titles: N/A

Original series: "See," "The Morning Show," "Dickinson," "Snoopy in Space," "Oprah's Book Club"

DISNEY+

Bottom line: The new entrant for genre fans and their kids



Price: \$6.99 a month or \$69.99 a year

Launch date: Nov. 12

Back catalog titles: "Boy Meets World," "Star Wars Rebels," "DuckTales," "Kim Possible," "The Simpsons"

Original series: "The Mandalorian," "High School Musical: The Musical: The Series," "The World According to Jeff Goldblum," "The Falcon and the Winter Soldier," "Lizzie McGuire"

PEACOCK

Bottom line: "Must-see TV," revisited

Price: Reports range from free (with ads) for those who receive NBC through a pay-TV provider to \$10 or \$12 per month.

Launch date: April 2020

Back catalog titles: "The Office" (from 2021), "Parks and



Recreation," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Cheers," "Frasier"

Original series: "Battlestar Galactica" reboot, "Saved By the Bell" reboot, "Punky Brewster" reboot, "Dr. Death," "Brave New World," "Rutherford Falls"

HBO MAX



Bottom line: HBO pitches a bigger tent

Price: \$15-\$18/month range predicted

Launch date: Spring 2020
Back catalog titles: "Friends," "The Big Bang Theory," "Sesame Street," "Doctor Who," "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"

Original series: "Dune: The Sisterhood," "Gremlins: Secrets of the Mogwai," "Love Life," "The Boondocks" reboot, "The Flight Attendant"

Matt Lauer rape accuser Brooke Nevils says he is ‘victim-blaming’ her

By STEPHEN BATTAGLIO
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The former NBC employee who says she was raped by fired “Today” co-anchor Matt Lauer had harsh words for his strongly worded denial of her accusation.

Brooke Nevils, who told investigative journalist Ronan Farrow that Lauer raped her in 2014, said the fallen TV star’s open letter that disputed her allegation was an attempt to bully and shame her.

“There’s a Matt Lauer that millions of Americans

watched on TV every morning for two decades. And there is the Matt Lauer who this morning attempted to bully a former colleague into silence,” she said in a statement to NBC News, issued late Wednesday. “His open letter was a case study in victim-blaming. I am not afraid of him now regardless of his threats, bullying, and the shaming and predatory tactics I knew he would and now has tried to use against me.”

Nevils alleged that Lauer forced her to have anal sex without her consent in a hotel room in Sochi, Russia, while

the “Today” team was covering the 2014 Winter Olympics, according to Farrow’s new book “Catch and Kill.”

Nevils told Farrow she was drinking heavily the night of the incident. She said she had gone to Lauer’s room twice—once to retrieve an Olympics press credential that he had taken as a joke and a second time at his invitation.

Nevils alleged that once she was in Lauer’s hotel room, he pushed her against a door and kissed her before pushing her onto the bed and asking her if she liked anal sex. She de-

clined several times, but he “just did it,” according to the book. She said she wept into a pillow during the incident.

“It was non-consensual in the sense that I was too drunk to consent,” Nevils said in the book. “It was non-consensual in that I said, multiple times, that I didn’t want to have anal sex.”

Lauer responded with a vivid description of the incident, which he insisted was consensual. He also said he continued an extramarital affair with Nevil for several months after the two returned from Sochi to New York.

“The story Brooke tells is filled with false details intended only to create the impression this was an abusive encounter,” Lauer said in his open letter, which was his first detailed statement since NBC fired him almost two years ago for inappropriate sexual behavior. “Nothing could be further from the truth. There was absolutely nothing aggressive about that encounter. Brooke did not do or say anything to object. She certainly did not cry. She was a fully enthusiastic and willing partner. At no time did she behave

in a way that made it appear she was incapable of consent. She seemed to know exactly what she wanted to do. The only concern she expressed was that someone might see her leaving my room. She embraced me at the door as she left.”

Lauer, the popular co-anchor of “Today” for more than 20 years, was fired by NBC after Nevils went to human resources with a complaint against him in November 2017. Nevils eventually left the network with a seven-figure settlement.



In this Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, photo Dolly Parton performs at her 50th Opry Member Anniversary at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tenn. AP

Still working ‘9 to 5,’ Parton marks 50 years at the Opry

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Country superstar Dolly Parton is still working “9 to 5,” and doing what she loves as she celebrated her 50th anniversary as a Grand Ole Opry member.

The 73-year-old actress, singer and songwriter, who first played the Opry when she was just a teenager, played the longstanding radio show Saturday night in Nashville, Tennessee, in front of sold-out crowds. Hank Williams Jr., Lady Antebellum and Toby Keith performed in her honor as well and her shows capped off a week of Dolly-themed performances and events at the Opry.

She joked to reporters before her performance that when the Opry approached her about the anniversary, she

told them, “I don’t want people to think I’m 50 years old.”

The anniversary reminded her of the first time she got to perform at the Opry.

“Well a lot of people think this is my 50th year the Grand Ole Opry,” Parton said. “It’s actually been 60 because first time I got to sing on the Opry I was 13 years old. And actually Johnny Cash introduced me, I believe. And Jimmy C. Newman had given me his spot.”

Parton said she was grateful to still be chasing her dreams and said she’s got more film, TV and music projects on the way. The Opry performances will be aired on an NBC special on Nov. 26 and Netflix will air an anthology series based on her songs in 2019.

Prince estate: Trump violated promise not to play ‘Purple Rain’

Shortly before President Donald Trump took the stage at downtown Minneapolis’ Target Center Thursday night, Prince’s “Purple Rain” played—even though his estate asked a year ago that the president stop using the late musician’s music.

“President Trump played Prince’s ‘Purple Rain’ tonight at a campaign event in Minneapolis despite confirming a year ago that the campaign would not use Prince’s music,” Prince’s estate said in a tweet Thursday night. “The Prince Estate will never give permission to President Trump to use Prince’s songs.”

In October 2018, Prince’s estate asked that the president immediately “cease all use” of Prince’s songs. A spokeswoman for Prince’s estate provided an Oct. 15, 2018, letter from a Trump campaign attorney, who wrote that the campaign “will not use Prince’s music in connection with its activities going forward.”

Prince, a Minneapolis native, died in 2016 at his home in Chanhassen, after an accidental overdose of the synthetic opioid fentanyl. In 1983, he recorded “Purple Rain” live at First Avenue, across the street from Target Center. (*Star Tribune-Minneapolis*)

‘Joker’ tops box office again, beats ‘Addams Family’

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The first weekend was no fluke: “Joker” is a hit.

The R-rated comic book villain origin story had a phenomenal second weekend at the box office, topping the charts once more over newcomers such as the animated “The Addams Family” and the Will Smith action pic “Gemini Man.”

Warner Bros. said Sunday that “Joker” added an estimated \$55 million from North American theaters this weekend, bringing its domestic total to \$192.7 million.

Not only are the pure grosses impressive, but “Joker” also dropped only 43% from its record-breaking debut.

For comic book films, which are often front-loaded and regularly see second weekend falls that are over 50%, it’s a notably small dip. It’s also a slightly lower drop than “Wonder Woman” and “Black Panther”—both of which had higher initial openings and went on to have long lives in theaters.

“These are incredible numbers and really reflect how interested and excited people were,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore.

The film had a rollercoaster ride to release, with highs like winning the top prize at the Venice Film Festival, and lows when concerns about the film inciting violence made headlines and prompted increased security at many theaters across the country. But audiences have spoken with their dollars and “were not going to be deterred,” Dergarabedian said.

“It shows that content wins. A great movie will rise up above all the noise over whatever controversy or security concerns there were,” he added. “You’re totally left out of the water cooler conversation if you haven’t seen ‘Joker.’”

Internationally, “Joker” added \$123.7 million from 79 markets, bringing its global



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Joaquin Phoenix in a scene from the film “Joker.” AP

1. “*Joker*,” \$55 million (\$123.7 million international).
2. “*The Addams Family*,” \$30.3 million.
3. “*Gemini Man*,” \$20.5 million (\$31.1 million international).
4. “*Abominable*,” \$6.2 million (\$15 million international).
5. “*Downton Abbey*,” \$4.9 million (\$4.1 million international).
6. “*Hustlers*,” \$3.9 million (\$3.9 million international).
7. “*Judy*,” \$3.3 million (\$1.6 million international).
8. “*It: Chapter Two*,” \$3.2 million (\$2.3 million international).
9. “*Jexi*,” \$3.1 million.
10. “*Ad Astra*,” \$1.9 million (\$2.9 million international).

total to \$543.9 million after just 12 days in theaters.

“Joker’s” second weekend success played well alongside the counterprogramming of the kid-friendly “Addams Family,” which exceeded expectations and came in a strong second with \$30.3 million.

United Artists Releasing distributed the film from MGM and BRON Creative that features the voices of Oscar Isaac, Charlize Theron and Bette Midler. “The Addams Family” defied middling reviews (43% on Rotten Tomatoes) and benefited from a marketplace with relatively few family friendly options in theaters right now, aside from

“Abominable” which is now in its third weekend.

The ambitious, star-driven “Gemini Man” was not so lucky. The visual effects-heavy Ang Lee film about an assassin on the run from a younger version of himself (both played by Smith using state of the art de-aging technology) opened in third place with only \$20.5 million. Even Smith’s disastrous “After Earth” had a better debut (\$27.5 million).

Reviews were overwhelmingly poor (it’s currently at 26% on Rotten Tomatoes) but “Gemini Man” also had the “Joker” factor to contend with, which may have contributed to the disappointing opening, according to Dergarabedian.

“Gemini Man” was not a cheap endeavor either. The film from Paramount and Skydance cost a reported \$140 million to make after rebates and will have a difficult time breaking even.

Rounding out the top five were “Abominable,” with \$6.2 million, and “Downton Abbey,” with \$4.9 million.

In limited release, Bong

Joon-Ho’s “Parasite” had an extraordinary weekend, earning \$376,264 from only 3 locations. Its \$125,421 per theater average is a record for 2019.

“It’s amazing how well (“Parasite”) did. It’s one of the biggest stories of the weekend,” Dergarabedian said. “That per theater average means that those movie theaters were full. The demand far outweighed the supply.”

Neon is distributing the

class-conscious Korean thriller, which won the Palme d’Or at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year and is already a massive hit internationally, with over \$70.9 million from South Korea alone. With near-unanimous rave reviews, “Parasite” is also expected to be an awards contender and will be expanding in North America in the coming weeks.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Atwood, Ellmann favorites to win fiction's Booker Prize

LONDON (AP) — Booker Prize winner Margaret Atwood is the bookies' favorite to win the coveted fiction trophy again for "The Testaments," her follow-up to dystopian saga "The Handmaid's Tale."

Atwood, who won in 2000 for "The Blind Assas-

sin," is one of six finalists for the 50,000-pound (\$63,000) prize, whose winner will be announced Monday.

British bookmakers also give strong odds to British-Turkish author Elif Shafak for the Istanbul-set story "10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World" and U.S.-

Scorsese says he's open-minded about Netflix film revolution

LONDON (AP)—Martin Scorsese said Sunday he's keeping an open mind about the cinema "revolution" sparked by the rise of video streaming services, as his Netflix-backed mafia epic "The Irishman" closed the London Film Festival.

The director said the rise of streaming platforms was "an even bigger revolution than sound brought to cinema" because it "opens up the original conception of what a film is" and how it should be seen.

Scorsese told reporters he

thought it was still important that movies be experienced communally.

"Homes are becoming theatres too but it's a major change and I think one has to keep an open mind," he said.

"The Irishman"—about the reflections of a former Jimmy Hoffa associate and hitman—is due to have a theatrical run from Nov. 1 before its Nov. 27 release on Netflix.

Scorsese took the project to Netflix after other studios turned it down, partly due to its length and the expensive de-aging digital effects used to

British writer Lucy Ellmann for her 1,000-page stream-of-consciousness novel "Ducks, Newburyport."

The other contenders are Salman Rushdie for "Quichotte," a modern-day retelling of "Don Quixote"; Britain's Bernardine Evaristo for "Girl, Woman, Oth-

er"; and Nigeria's Chigozie Obioma for "An Orchestra

of Minorities."

Founded in 1969, the prize

is open to English-language authors from any country.

Queen Latifah to receive Harvard black culture award

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—Music artist and actress Queen Latifah is among the honorees being recognized by Harvard University this year for their contributions to black history and culture.

Harvard is set to award the W.E.B. Du Bois Medal to Queen Latifah and six other recipients on Oct. 22, accord-

ing to the Cambridge, Massachusetts, school's Hutchins Center for African and African American Research.

Other honorees include poet and educator Elizabeth Alexander, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution Lonnie Bunch III, poet Rita Dove, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television Sheila

Johnson, artist Kerry James Marshall and Robert Smith, founder, chairman and chief executive of Vista Equity Partners.

The award is named after Du Bois, a scholar, writer, editor, and civil rights pioneer who became the first black student to earn a doctorate from Harvard in 1895.



AP

In this Monday, Aug. 26, 2019, file photo, Queen Latifah arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J.

Mississippi hometown to honor late Temptations singer

MERIDIAN, Miss. (AP)—One Mississippi city promises there will be sunshine on Oct. 26, even if it's a cloudy day.

That's the day Meridian will honor the late David Ruffin, one of the lead singers of the Motown group The Temptations. He sang the hit "My Girl," that included that sunny lyric.

The Meridian Star reports the city will add signs ceremonially naming four blocks of a downtown street "David Ruffin Boulevard."

Born in nearby rural Whynot, Ruffin claimed Meridian as home.

Mississippi's Arts + Entertainment Experience will

also place Ruffin's star on its walk of fame, while Jackson State University's marching band, the "Sonic Boom of the South," will lead a parade.

LaMont Robinson, head of the National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame and Ruffin's son-in-law, presented the idea to Meridian.



AP
Actor Al Pacino, from right, director Martin Scorsese and actor Robert De Niro pose for photographers at the photocall of the film 'The Irishman' as part of the London Film Festival, in central London, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019.

Happy smartphone user stops short of becoming an addict

DEAR ABBY: I have a smartphone, and I love its convenience. I check my email, texts and voicemail three or four times a day and always try to respond promptly. But I do not carry my phone with me every moment of the day.

Some family members insist that the polite thing to do is to return a text message or voicemail IMMEDIATELY. They carry their phones with them and constantly interrupt whatever they are involved with to answer the phone, send a text, etc.

For my birthday, one relative gave me a little pouch on a string so I could wear my phone around my neck wherever I went because she texted me one day early in the afternoon saying she wanted to drop by, but I didn't see or respond to it until dinner time. Is making oneself available every moment of the day and night now required for good manners?

NOT A PHONE ADDICT

DEAR NOT AN ADDICT: Of course not! A cellphone is not supposed to be a leash. Your relative has become hooked on the concept of instant gratification, which isn't healthy for either of you. If you humor her, your cellphone will become an annoying and unending inconvenience for you. Do not take the bait.

DEAR ABBY: My father recently purchased a truck for our farm. It's old and in poor shape, but it was worth the \$2,000 he

paid for it.

The truck was fine until my father used it to pick me and my siblings up from school. When the other kids saw the bumperless truck, they began calling my little brother "Farmer Boy" and made cow noises at us. My mother isn't OK with it either. He picked her up from work in it, which embarrassed her in front of her co-workers.

It's not like we don't have other vehicles. Both my parents have nice, functional cars. Abby, please help me figure out a way to tell my dad without hurting his feelings.

FREAKED OUT IN FRANKFORT, KY.

DEAR FREAKED OUT: People should not be judged because of the clothes they wear or the vehicles they drive, but sometimes they are by shallow people who should know better. I think you could get your message across by telling your father how your brother's classmates reacted when they saw him pick up your brother. What they did was cruel. Leave it up to your mother to tell him she felt embarrassed in front of her co-workers. I'm sure she can get the message across.

DEAR ABBY: My wife was sexually active with a classmate in high school. Their relationship lasted until shortly before we were married, 54 years ago. I have often wondered what he did to make her so willing to come to his bed. Perhaps if I knew,

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



I could enhance her pleasure in our lovemaking. However, such information might be injurious to our relationship. What is your take on this? I think about this several times each day.

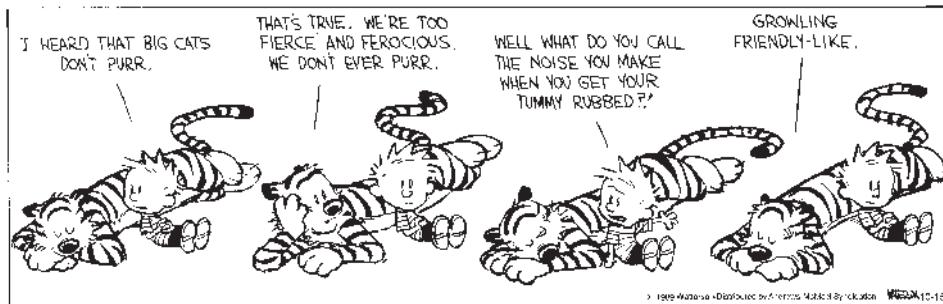
OBSESSED IN THE WEST

DEAR OBSESSED: You have, I hope, been happily married for more than half a century. Has it never occurred to you that her high school romance failed because the sex wasn't that great? If you want to ask your wife at this late date if there is anything you can do to enhance her enjoyment of your lovemaking, by all means do. But do not frame it the way you did to me.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

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By Bill Waterson

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By Jim Davis

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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40	Sudan	4	Window	24	L-Q	bridge
1 Seethe	41	neighbor	42	Egg	5	Evening,	26 Sneakers
5 Astronauts' org.	43	(Pref.)	44	Drywall	6	in an ad	27 Big
9 Center	45	brand	46	Calendar	7	Book after	bird of
12 Carry	47	abbr.	48	abrv.	8	Joel Pouch	Australia
13 One-named	49	Black,	49	Black,	9	Short socks	28 Swiss
super-model	50	in verse	50	in verse	10	"Psycho"	artist Paul
14 Rage	51	Buffalo's	51	Buffalo's	11	director Alfred	29 Play area
15 Famed	52	county	52	Biblical	10	Pakistani language	31 Matching
1969	53	boat	53	Pitch	20	language Alfred	office accessories
music festival	54	boat	54	Meditative	16	Drunkenard	34 Sportage
17 QB's goals	55	county	55	practice	17	Buckeyes'	maker
18 Leaves	56	Black,	56	practice	20	sch.	35 "Funny Face"
19 Venue	57	in verse	57	practice	21	First victim	actress Hepburn
21 Plus	58	verse	58	practice	22	Palm starch	37 Rebel
24 Netting	59	verse	59	practice	23	Turner	38 Fizzy drink
25 Scrooge's cries	60	verse	60	practice	24	host	39 Say it's so
26 Bluegrass State	61	verse	61	practice	25	host	40 Corp. kingpins
30 Swelled head	62	verse	62	practice	26	host	41 Coop group
31 Audition CDs	63	verse	63	practice	27	host	44 "Game of Thrones"
32 Slangy suffix	64	verse	64	practice	28	host	45 Acapulco
33 Confined, as in a jail	65	verse	65	practice	29	host	46 Smoke, for short
35 Computer brand	66	verse	66	practice	30	host	47 Mauna —
36 Smooch	67	verse	67	practice	31	host	
37 Micro-waved	68	verse	68	practice	32	host	
38 "Wheel of Fortune" host	69	verse	69	practice	33	host	
	70	verse	70	practice	34	host	
	71	verse	71	practice	35	host	
	72	verse	72	practice	36	host	
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	82	verse	82	practice	46	host	
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	85	verse	85	practice	49	host	
	86	verse	86	practice	50	host	
	87	verse	87	practice	51	host	
	88	verse	88	practice	52	host	
	89	verse	89	practice	53	host	

Yesterday's answer 10-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dominic West, 50; Vanessa Marcil, 51; Emeril Lagasse, 60; Sarah Ferguson, 60.

Happy Birthday: Look back before you move forward. Rely on experience to help you avoid attracting individuals who will not treat you properly. Building a home base that is conducive to achieving the goals you set will be the most important factor moving forward. Discipline and having trust in your ability will be required. Believe in yourself, and you'll thrive. Your numbers are 8, 15, 21, 24, 30, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Something that looks good will tempt you, but before you make a move, be observant and consider the consequence of your actions. Don't let someone's bragging make you feel you are missing out or have less.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take charge and bring about the changes necessary to advance. Look at your relationships, and consider the changes that will enhance the connections you have with others. Letting go of whatever holds you back is long overdue.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your secrets to yourself. If you reveal personal thoughts to someone in confidence, you will end up being disappointed. Put your energy into physical fitness, tidying up unfinished chores or an exciting challenge. Don't buy into someone else's scheme.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can make a difference if you use your intelligence to help someone in need. Your

perspective will shine a new light on a stagnating problem. Don't let anger take over when fixing what's broken is all that's required.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of business. If you spend your time pontificating instead of physically getting things done, you will face criticism as well as disappointment. Don't let someone outmaneuver you by taking over and getting all the credit. Take pride in what you do.

ARIES (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Consider your options, and start the ball rolling. How you handle situations, people and partnerships will make a difference in the outcome. Show kindness and consideration, but don't lose sight of your goal. A change will be useful for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Sign up for whatever sparks your interest. Live, learn and associate with those who push you forward instead of holding you back. Be a doer and a leader, not a follower. Make positive changes that will encourage saving and nurturing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Learn by observing others, talking to experts or engaging in events that challenge you to use your mental and physical skills. Be bold, try new things and make personal changes that excite you. Romance is featured and will enhance your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Refuse to let someone manipulate you. If something seems far-fetched, go directly to the source and ask for details. Take care of responsibilities first, or someone will point out your shortcomings. Don't reveal secret information.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stay focused on what you want to achieve. You've got the right combination to balance both home and work responsibilities, so don't let a petty incident interfere with what's important. A strong suggestion will encourage more significant support. Make romance a priority.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a closer look at your assets, and see if your budget will withstand an expense you've been considering. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you cannot handle financially, emotionally or physically. Practicality and a minimalist attitude are warranted.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take a different approach to the way you handle your money, a legal matter or health issues. Ask an expert for advice, but make a decision based on what you feel you can handle. Romance is encouraged, and a commitment looks promising.

Birthday Baby: You are protective, diligent and secretive. You are sensitive and insightful.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

7			4	8	3	7	6	9
5						8		
2			9	4	6			
6						4		
7			5	8	3			
8						5		
1			2	6	7	1	4	6

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	7	2	3	6	5	1	9	8
3	6	8	9	4	1	5	2	7
9	1	5	2	7	8	4	3	6
7	8	9	4	5	3	2	6	1
2	3	6	7	1	9	8	4	5
5	4	1	8	2	6	9	7	3
1	5	3	6	9	4	7	8	2
8	2	4	1	3	7	6	5	9
6	9	7	5	8	2	3	1	4

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically and even diagonally. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HYPERLOCAL

G	G	A	D	V	E	R	T	I	S	E	N	R	D

<tbl_r cells="15" ix="3" maxcspan="1" maxrspan

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S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
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S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

SECOND MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION P.O. BOX 501457 Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Administrative Officer III

Deadline: October 18, 2019

Nature of Position

- Attends all meetings of the Commission
- Prepares the agenda of the meetings, by working with the Chairman
- Prepares and maintains all minutes of the Commission's meetings
- Prepares travel documents for the Commissioners
- Coordinates meetings/hearing sites for the Commission
- Organize historical documents for the archives
- Create website and other social media
- Performs other related duties as assigned

Qualification:

- Must have a working knowledge of the CNMI political and cultural history
- Bachelor of Arts or equivalent
- 6 years' experience in administrative skills
- Must reside in the CNMI

Salary: \$35,000-\$40,000 (Negotiable)

Position: Part-time Legal Counsel

Deadline: October 18, 2019

Nature of Position

- Examine present political status with US and former Trust Territory Relationship
- Communicate with the Commission, the courts, and other legal counsel.
- Conduct research and analysis of the Commission's legal issues.
- Interpret laws, rulings, and regulations and advise the Commission on how to proceed.
- Performs other related duties as assigned

Qualification:

- Must have a working knowledge of the CNMI political and cultural history
- Must be knowledgeable of the Covenant
- Must be able to practice law in CNMI
- Must reside in the CNMI

Salary: (Negotiable)

For more information and application, please contact Ms Zania Fleming at flemingzania@gmail.com

WHATZIT Solution: On the scent

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Walk-off homer hands Astros win in Game 2



HOUSTON

(AP)—Carlos Correa hit a leadoff home run in the 11th inning and the Houston Astros won a battle of the bullpens, beating the New York Yankees 3-2 Sunday night to tie the AL Championship Series at one game apiece.

The slumping Correa, who earlier hit an RBI double and made a sensational play at shortstop, connected for an opposite-field shot to right off J.A. Happ.

Correa watched the ball sail, then held up one finger as he rounded the bases. As he approached home plate, he tossed his helmet as if shooting a basketball at the crowd of teammates waiting for him.

Game 3 is Tuesday afternoon at Yankee Stadium. Gerrit Cole, who is 18-0 in his last 24 starts and led the majors in strikeouts, starts for the Astros against Luis Severino.

"The game of baseball, it's a beautiful game," Correa said.

The Yankees tied a League Championship Series record by using nine pitchers. The eight relievers had permitted only one run and two hits with 11 strikeouts before Correa homered, ending a game that took 4 hours, 49 minutes and ended right around midnight.

Houston's five relievers combined for 4 1/3 innings of one-hit shutout ball after taking over for Justin Verlander. Going into this best-of-seven series, the Yankees were considered the better team in the bullpen — the Astros amply held their own in this one.

"Our bullpen was nasty, gave us a chance to win the game," Correa said.

Gary Sánchez struck out looking to end the Yankees 11th with runners on first and second. The pitch appeared outside—it came right after he swung and missed with two strikes, but was ruled a foul ball.

New York lost for the first



Houston Astros' Carlos Correa hits a walk-off home run against the New York Yankees during the 11th inning in Game 2 of the American League Championship Series Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019, in Houston. AP

Correa hit an RBI double in the second off James Paxton, who lasted just 2 1/3 innings.

Hours later, Correa ended it with his drive off Happ.

"I've been successful before going the other way against him," Correa said. "I was looking for something down the middle that I could drive the other way. He threw a perfect pitch to do it."

In a game decided by bullpens, it was quite a relief for Correa.

"Not playing a couple of weeks before the playoffs and then not producing for or my team offensively, obviously it's tough, getting hurt and everything," he said. "But it's all worth it for moments like this, moments like this where you give your team a chance to win every day, it's worth it, man."

"I'll be working really hard, really hard to get healthy, get back with my teammates. You don't know what it's like," he said. "It's been a tough road this year but I'm finally here and I was able to contribute tonight."

Nationals looking invincible in NLCS

ST. LOUIS—They know how baseball works, so they will stop well short of calling themselves invincible.

Instead, the Washington Nationals have performed at such a high level in these playoffs that they have rendered themselves practically unbeatable.

A franchise that 11 days ago was just four outs away from adding to its not-good-enough postseason history has instead taken a tiny opening in a wild card game and burrowed its way to within two victories of the World Series — while rendering the St. Louis Cardinals thoroughly punchless.

Saturday afternoon at Busch Stadium, Max Scherzer followed in the footsteps of Game 1 starter Anibal Sánchez and carried a no-hitter into the late innings of a National League Championship Series' Game 2. Like Sánchez, the no-hitter didn't last, but the Nationals won.

As they always do these days.

Scherzer struck out 11 Cardinals in his 7 1/3 innings, but for as great as he and Washington's starters have been, it was the other end of their ledger that was more telling.

Scarcely used center fielder Michael A. Taylor popped a

go-ahead, third-inning home run. No. 2 hitter Adam Eaton turned a one-run game into an eighth-inning extra base hit.

And the Nationals claimed a 3-1 victory that gave them a 2-0 NLCS edge on the Cardinals, with Game 3 at Nationals Park on Monday night.

Sure, they'll start another ace in Stephen Strasburg, who will battle Cardinals No. 1 man Jack Flaherty. But at this point, kismet may matter as much as Ks for a team that has won six of eight playoff games since facing a 3-1, eighth-inning deficit in the NL knockout match against Milwaukee.

They roared back to win that game and survived two elimination games against the mighty Dodgers.

And now?

"There's this weird feeling that comes over the dugout, comes over the bullpen, in the sixth, seventh inning of games," says Nationals reliever Sean Doolittle, who recorded seven crucial late-inning outs in Games 1 and 2.

"When the game is close, the game is hanging in the balance, we're finding ways to push runs across, like we did last night, like we did today."

"It's really, really cool."

It's the exact opposite of

Schilling eyeing Phillies, Red Sox coaching job

Curt Schilling, who hasn't thrown a pitch since the 2007 World Series but has since become one of the sport's most polarizing figures for his right-wing political views, wants back in the game.

Schilling, a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump, has often spoken about entering the political arena but instead is ready to throw his hat into the world of baseball.

Schilling wants to interview for the Philadelphia Phillies' managerial vacancy after the firing of Gabe Kapler. He says he is also interested in the Boston Red Sox's pitching coach opening.

"I think it's one of the few openings since I left that I 'fit,'" Schilling told USA TODAY Sports in a text message of the Phillies job. "I know the city. I know the fans and I know the expectations."

A six-time All-Star, three-time World Series champion and three-time Cy Young runner-up, Schilling pitched nine years for the Phillies. He later won a World Series championship with the Arizona Diamondbacks, and two more with the Boston Red Sox.

"The media," he says, "won't be an issue."

Oh, yeah, the news media. The same group whose lynchings Schilling applauded when

he re-tweeted an image that read: "Rope. Tree. Journalist." Schilling said at the time it was "100% sarcasm."

Schilling joined the news media in 2010 after retiring in 2007, working as an analyst for ESPN. He was fired in 2016 after sharing a Facebook post related to the North Carolina transgender law.

Schilling shared a photo of a man wearing a wig and women's clothing, with parts of the T-shirt ripped to show his chest. Next to the photo, it read: "LET HIM IN! to the restroom with your daughter or else you're a narrow minded, judgmental, unloving, racist bigot who needs to die!!!"

this team's identity in May, when their bullpen beyond Doolittle was in tatters and a 19-31 start appeared to doom them.

At that point, they'd suffered 11 losses when blowing a lead in the seventh inning or later.

Now? They own the eighth inning—a three-run rally to topple the Brewers 4-3, a two-homer salvo to erase another 3-1 deficit against the Dodgers in the decisive NLDS Game 5, and two runs Saturday that proved decisive.

Overall, they are 80-40 since May 23 (a .666 clip), including 6-2 this postseason.

One sample size is massive. The other is small. But both square with what's unfolded on the field—and with what's now at stake.

"When you catch a break like we did in the wild-card game, you start to feel like," says Doolittle, before pausing and perhaps catching himself, "... you start to play with so much confidence, because you never feel like you're out of a game."

"When our starting pitching is doing what it's been able to do, giving us a chance to win every night, going deep into games, I feel like everybody's playing with this calm confidence that we're going to find a way to win."

Watson outduels Mahomes in Texans' win over KC



KANSAS

CITY, Mo.

(AP)—Deshaun

Watson threw for 280 yards and a touchdown while running for two more, outdueling Chiefs counterpart Patrick Mahomes in a matchup of former first-round picks and leading the Houston Texans to a 31-24 victory over Kansas City on Sunday.

Carlos Hyde added 116 yards rushing and a touchdown against the team that traded him to Houston (4-2) before the start of the season. DeAndre Hopkins hauled in nine passes for 55 yards.

None was bigger than his last, when the Texans star made a sliding grab on fourth-and-3 from the Kansas City 27 with just under 2 minutes to go. That allowed Houston to run out the clock and deal the Chiefs (4-2) their second consecutive loss —both at Arrowhead Stadium.

Mahomes, who was selected two spots ahead of Watson in the 2017 draft, finished with 273 yards passing and three touchdowns, though he also threw his first interception of the season.

Star wide receiver Tyreek Hill returned to action for the first time since Week 1, when he broke his collarbone, to catch five passes for 80 yards and two of the Chiefs' scores.

Seahawks 32, Browns 28

In Cleveland, Chris Carson scored on a 1-yard touchdown run with 3:30 left, Russell Wilson threw two TD passes and ran for one and Seattle rallied past mistake-prone Browns, improving to 3-0 on the road for the first time in 39 years.

The Seahawks (5-1) gave up touchdowns on Cleveland's first three possessions before storming back.

Wilson connected with Jaron Brown for two scores, and Seattle's cool quarterback scampered 16 yards for a TD. The Seahawks last won their first three road games in 1980, when they went 4-12.

The Browns (2-4) were hurt by their own miscues. They couldn't overcome four turnovers, a blocked punt or quarterback Baker Mayfield's hip injury and fell to 0-3 at First-Energy Stadium.

Mayfield threw three interceptions, raising his NFL-leading total to 11.

Saints 13, Jaguars 6

In Jacksonville, Teddy Bridgewater found Jared Cook for a 4-yard touchdown early in the fourth quarter, and New Orleans held on to beat the Jaguars and improve to 4-0 without injured starter Drew Brees. Coming off a 300-yard,



Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) is tackled by Kansas City Chiefs cornerback Kendall Fuller (29) during the first half of an NFL football game in Kansas City, Mo., Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019. AP

Terry McLaurin caught two touchdown passes and Washington stopped the Dolphins' two-point conversion attempt with 6 seconds left in a matchup between winless teams.

Adrian Peterson more than doubled his season rushing total with 118 yards for Bill Callahan in his first game as interim coach. Washington intercepted Josh Rosen twice and sacked him five times before he was benched at the start of the fourth quarter with the Dolphins trailing 17-3.

Rosen's replacement, Ryan Fitzpatrick, sparked a rally and led two touchdown drives, including a 75-yard march that began with 2:02 left.

Broncos 16, Titans 0

In Denver, the Broncos' swarming defense sent Marcus Mariota to the bench and Tennessee to its fourth loss in five games.

The Broncos (2-4) had seven sacks in a game for the first time since their 2015 Super Bowl season and they picked off three passes.

Chris Harris Jr. and Justin Simmons intercepted Mariota, who was sacked three times and was replaced by Ryan Tannehill after Simmons' interception led to a 2-yard touchdown run by Phillip Lindsay that made it 13-0. Tannehill was sacked four times and picked off by Ka-reem Jackson on Tennessee's final drive, which reached the Denver 5-yard line before two offensive penalties and a sack pushed the Titans back to the 30-yard line.

Cards 34, Falcons 33

In Arizona, Kyler Murray threw for 340 yards and three touchdowns and Arizona built a big lead over Atlanta, lost it, and then rallied to win.

Atlanta looked like it would tie the game with 1:53 left after Matt Ryan hit Devonta Freeman on a 12-yard touchdown pass, but 44-year-old Matt Bryant missed left on the extra point, and the Cardinals ran out the clock from there.

The Cardinals (2-3-1) took a 34-27 lead with 5:12 remaining on David Johnson's 14-yard touchdown catch from Murray. Johnson made a great adjustment to his route on the slightly underthrown ball, catching the ball between two defenders.

McVay's 2½-year tenure.

Tevin Coleman rushed for an early touchdown for San Francisco, while Garoppolo was mostly effective despite two turnovers. The Niners didn't score a touchdown in the final 27 minutes, but they're off to their fourth 5-0 start in franchise history, and their first since 1990.

Jets 24, Cowboys 22

In East Rutherford, Sam Darnold gave the Jets' struggling offense a huge boost by throwing two touchdown passes in his return from mononucleosis, and New York held on to beat Dallas for its first win of the season.

The Jets led 21-9 in the fourth quarter, but Dak Prescott and the top-ranked Cowboys offense stormed back—and had a chance to tie in the closing moments.

Prescott ran for a 4-yard touchdown with 43 seconds left, making it a two-point game. Going for the tie, Prescott dropped back and was quickly met by a blitzing Jamal Adams and his pass on the conversion try fell short of Jason Witten in the end zone.

The Cowboys (3-3) tried an onside kick, but Demaryius Thomas recovered for the Jets (1-4), who won for the first time under coach Adam Gase. It was the third straight loss for Dallas.

Darnold finished 23 of 32 for 338 yards—including a 92-yard touchdown toss to Robby Anderson and a 5-yarder to

Ryan Griffin.

Vikings 38, Eagles 20

In Minneapolis, Kirk Cousins threw to Stefon Diggs for three of his four touchdowns, racking up a season-high 333 passing yards as Minnesota ravaged Philadelphia's secondary.

Diggs scored on plays in the first half that covered 51 and 62 yards, becoming the first player since Randy Moss in 2000 to post two touchdown receptions of 50-plus yards in one game for the Vikings (4-2).

His most important catch came late in the third quarter, a double toe tap in the back of the end zone from 11 yards out that pushed the lead to 11 points after Carson Wentz and the Eagles (3-3) had pulled within 24-20 with 17 straight points.

Cousins went 22 for 29 with one sack and one interception on a deflected ball.

The Eagles have been badly missing starting cornerbacks Ronald Darby and Avonte Maddox, and Cousins took full advantage with a first half that looked at times like passing drills against the scout team.

Ravens 23, Bengals 17

In Baltimore, Lamar Jackson ran for a career-high 152 yards and a touchdown, threw for 236 yards and guided the Ravens past hapless Cincinnati.

Jackson carried 19 times, including three kneel-downs, and finished tantalizingly short of Michael Vick's single-game

record of 173 yards rushing by a quarterback.

Jackson now has three career 100-yard rushing games, tied with Billy Kilmer for most by a quarterback in his first two seasons since 1950.

Regardless of where Jackson went, the Bengals (0-6) were usually a step behind. Jackson was also adept when throwing, going 21 for 33 without an interception.

Cincinnati jumped on top when Brandon Wilson took the opening kickoff 92 yards for a score, but Jackson responded quickly.

Panthers 37, Buccaneers 26

In London, Christian McCaffrey scored two touchdowns and Carolina turned five interceptions by Jameis Winston into 17 points as the Panthers beat Tampa Bay.

After starting the season with two straight losses with

hobbled Cam Newton at quarterback, the Panthers (4-2) have been on a roll with Kyle Allen at quarterback thanks to McCaffrey's big plays and an opportunistic defense that had a franchise record-tying seven takeaways on the day.

Both of those factors came up big on Carolina's first trip to London in front of a large contingent of Panthers fans for what was designated as a home game for the Bucs (2-4).

Redskins 17, Dolphins 16

In Miami Gardens, rookie

George to miss Clippers' first 10 games



LOS ANGELES—

We are expecting not to see Paul George on the court with Kawhi Leonard in a Los Angeles Clippers uniform until November. But until this week, we didn't have a good idea about when George could return over the course of the next month.

Speaking to reporters this week, Clippers head coach Doc Rivers let it slip that George could miss up to the first 10 games of the regular season. That would put George at a tentative return date of Nov. 13 against the Houston Rockets.

The Clippers are still expected to be one of the best teams in the NBA, and the real question heading into the first several weeks of the season will be how much they allow Leonard to sit out due to load management if George is not on the floor.

The real question in Los Angeles—on both sides of the hall at Staples Center—will be about health, and the Clippers know that it's not how you start the season but how you finish. It seems likely they will wait until George is fully ready to return to action rather than rushing him back from dual shoulder surgery.

Meanwhile, the moment could have called for a light practice. This marked a forgettable weekend on which most would rather relax and watch



college football.

These moments could define the Los Angeles Clippers' NBA championship chances, however. Perhaps as much as Kawhi Leonard and George. So Rivers held a full-court scrimmage.

"I love them," Rivers said.

Most coaches love scrimmages during training camp. It raises the competition. It helps coaches sort out the depth chart. Once the regular season starts, Rivers often stopped them during his time coaching in Orlando (1999-2003), Boston (2004-2013) and Los An-

geles (2013-present) to save his players' legs for games that actually matter. Rivers has changed his strategy for this season, though.

Just like he did when the Boston Celtics acquired Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen in separate offseason deals to pair

with Paul Pierce in 2007-08, Rivers plans to hold scrimmages frequently through the Clippers' upcoming season. And why not?

The Clippers landed Leonard and George this summer. Rivers has varying starting

AP
Los Angeles Clippers forward Kawhi Leonard, forward Paul George and head coach Doc Rivers join teammates for photos during the NBA basketball team's media day in Los Angeles, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019.

lineups and bench rotations to evaluate. After logging 11 minutes in the Clippers' preseason loss to Denver on Thursday, Leonard might sit out for Sunday's matinee against Australian team Melbourne United.

Lastly, after having off-season surgery that will sideline him at least through November, George could use that scrimmage time to shed his expected rustiness.

"I'm all for this team doing that," Rivers said. "I think it's a little different because Paul George is not going to be here for the first 10 (games), so that's going to be a little harder to do."

Rivers said those words in passing. The Clippers also have yet to release a designated timetable on George's return. But if Rivers' estimation holds up, George would not return until Nov. 13 against the Houston Rockets. He would miss marquee games, such as the season opener in a designated home game against the Lakers (Oct. 22) and the Golden State Warriors' season opener in San Francisco (Oct. 24).

Rockets focused on basketball after fallout from GM's tweet

TEXAS—The Rockets are back home in Houston, looking to leave behind the distractions from their trip to Asia.

Their two games in Japan were overshadowed by the aftermath of a tweet by general manager Daryl Morey in support for anti-government protesters in Hong Kong, angering fans and officials in China.

In their first practice since returning, the Rockets insisted they wouldn't let the fallout distract them from preparing for the season.

"Guys can handle it," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We still got good work in. Everything's fine, but you know what happened (is) regrettable, and it happened, but as I said, our work will get done."

Veteran P.J. Tucker denied that dealing with this situation has been a distraction to this team trying to contend for its first title since winning back-to-back championships in 1994-95.

"Not really, honestly," he

said. "This time of season, everybody's getting in shape, getting ready for the season, focusing in. So with all of the things that go on in life, and whatever, this is still our job, so we still come in and do our job every single day."

The Rockets were in Hawaii on Oct. 4 to play a pre-season game against the Los Angeles Clippers on the first leg of a trip that included two games in Japan when Morey tweeted an image that said: "Fight For Freedom. Stand With Hong Kong." His tweet was in reference to pro-democracy demonstrations in the semiautonomous Chinese territory that has been mired in escalating violence between protesters and law enforcement.

The tweet was deleted soon after it was posted, and Rockets owner and billionaire casino and restaurant owner Tilman Fertitta quickly rebuked his GM with a tweet saying that Morey does not speak for the team. He added: "Our pres-

ence in Tokyo is all about the promotion of the NBA internationally and we are NOT a political organization."

Despite the swift response from Fertitta, the damage was already done. Former Rockets star Yao Ming took offense to Morey's support for the anti-government protesters and as president of the Chinese Basketball Association, suspended its ties to the Rockets over the tweet.

Events in China promoting the Lakers-Nets series were canceled, NBA media partner Tencent said it was evaluating its plans to cover the league, and China state broadcaster CCTV did not air either pre-season game.

The tweet also caused some Chinese corporations to suspend relationships with the NBA and it is unclear what can be done to mend the relationship.

D'Antoni was asked if there is anything the coaches and players can do to help repair things with China.

"We've just got to keep

playing and keep trying to be good ambassadors for the game, that's all the players can do," he said. "And then we'll let the NBA and the Houston Rockets sort things out."

Morey hasn't spoken publicly since the tweet, with his only comments on the issue coming in two more tweets on Oct. 6. In those tweets he did not apologize for his initial tweet but did say that his tweets "in no way represent the Rockets or the NBA."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver backed Morey's right to express his opinion and said: "We are not apologizing for Daryl exercising his freedom of expression."

Morey was at the Toyota Center on Sunday but did not speak to reporters and was not at the small portion of practice that media was permitted to attend. While Morey stayed out of the spotlight it was up to the players and D'Antoni to address how the Rockets can move past what happened.

the association, its presence in the Commonwealth, and its efforts to building capacity for the CNMI to ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy the marine resources available today.

"It is our intent and mission to provide education, as well as incorporate knowledge to our youth so that they become greater stewards of our islands and its resources," said Weaver. "As we continue to use what we have, we will need to ensure that we establish a sustainable way to fish and how to protect our oceans."

Presenters from the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance and the Division of Fish and Wildlife provided students with lessons on how they can be a part of protecting marine resources. Both MINA and DFW have been a part of the SFA's outreach program since June of this year, and continue to be an avid SFA partner to reaching out and educating the community.

The DFW will also be presenting on the fish species around the islands and share

information regarding species present on Saipan. It is essential for SFA's new young fishermen/women to be aware of these edible and non-edible species as they embark on an eight-month program with the SFA.

"We intend to share our knowledge with the youth," added Weaver. "SFA believes in mentoring the youth through its assets. These include skill sets on various fishing techniques: trolling, shallow bottom, shoreline casting, net fishing (talaya), and deep drop."

Also, more women are now involved with fishing, according to SFA member Vicki Benavente, adding that fishing is no longer just a man's thing to do. Benavente encourages more young women to get involved in the SFA Youth Fishing Club, to stay active, and be a part of the community.

SFA Outreach Program coordinator Alex Castro Jr. said the SFA Youth Fishing program will run for about eight months and will encompass not only the ideology of the various fishing techniques, but also self-imaging, skills on CPR and first aid, and boating safety do's and don'ts.

More CNMI youth get deep into fishing with SFA

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Youth involvement in fishing is getting deeper in the CNMI.

Last Saturday, the Saipan Fishermen's Association Youth Fishing Club grew even bigger with the addition of three new chapters: Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School, and Kagman High School.

With over 30 students participating from the chapters, SFA's vision to provide an understanding of its mission towards ocean preservation, as



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Fishermen's Association Youth Fishing Club members pose with representatives from MINA and DFW who taught them fishing and protecting marine biodiversity, as part of their 8-month long fishing course organized by the SFA.

well as of the island's fishery industry, to the youth would now be even more realized.

SFA president Gene Weaver opened up the 2019/2020 program with an introduction of

See CNMI on Page 26

First-timer triumphs in DC Classic

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

2019 DEE CLAYTON CLASSIC
BODYBUILDING • FIGURE • PHYSIQUE • BIKE
BODY BUILDING & FITNESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Despite her late preparations, newcomer Jordan Monderen still managed to win in the Figure Division of the 2019 Dee Clayton Classic Bodybuilding and Fitness Championship held last Saturday at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

The Latte Built Fitness staff was ecstatic with her victory in her first appearance in the DC Classic and recalled the late and tough preparations she had to go through.

"I started a little late to the show so I wasn't expecting it (win) at all. I had a lot of amazing support, so it was good. This is my first competition and I've always wanted to try something like this. I was a little scared for the bikinis and high heels but finally, I was like whatever, that's just an excuse so I just had to push past it," Monderen said.

Monderen added that the months of training was fun, although she found giving up her sugar cravings the hardest part of the preparations.

"The training was fun, but once it got closer to the end, it became more difficult especially since I love sweets. This morning was also hard because the prejudging was a little rough for me. I didn't know the rules and stuff like that, but overall, it was an amazing experience," she said.

After her winning debut, Monderen said she plans to participate again in the DC Classic.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Jordan Monderen strikes a pose during the 2019 Dee Clayton Classic Bodybuilding and Fitness Championship held last Saturday at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

MAWATI

From Page 28

sets up a semis duel with No. 2 seed Connie's BBQ.

Down by 4 after the opening canto, 14-18, and still facing a deficit at the break, 28-30, Mawati finally moved ahead after scoring 24 points in the third—its best output in a quarter. Frank Ferrer led Mawati in the pivotal-third period after making 8 markers, while Raymond Velasco and Paul Quizon combined for 7 more markers, and Web Gontar, Arjay Nonato,

and Jerome Reyes also hit baskets in the penultimate frame to give their team a 52-43 lead.

Mawati went on to notch a double-digit winning margin, as Velasco, Ferrer, Nonato, and Gontar teamed up in the fourth period.

Velasco ended up top-scoring for Mawati with his 18 markers, while Ferrer and Gontar added 15 and 12, respectively.

Jun Alipio had 15 points to pace Saipan Adventure, making 7 of them in the first quarter to put their team on top.

Only him and Alvin Almario scored in the second period for Saipan Adventure, as the team clung to a 30-28 lead before eventually losing the upper hand when Mawati made the move in the third canto.

Mawati 71—Velasco 18, Ferrer 15, Gontar 12, Enriquez 7, Nonato 7, Avila 4, Rena 3, Quizon 3, Reyes 2.

Saipan Adventure 58—Alipio 15, Mungcal 13, Morales 12, Almario 11, Verdeflor 6, Flores 1.

Scoring by quarters: 14-18, 28-30, 52-43, 71-58.

KANOA

From Page 28

ing behind Kanoa and TanHoldings after beating MP United, 6-1.

Summer Manahane starred in Southern United's third victory of the season after drilling a hat trick, while Katelyn Palacios, Megan Elayda, and Mariel Falalimpa contributed one goal each. MP United's lone goal in the lopsided match was courtesy of Jin Hoo Woo.

Shirley's made it two in a row after dropping its first three games following a 9-3 rout of Matansa.

Katrina Costales powered Shirley's to the easy win after posting six goals, while Shairmaine Olivos chipped in two, and Jemaine Gison registered one. Jannah Casarino recorded all of Matansa's three goals.

BOYS U18

TanHoldings 2, Kanoa 0

TanHoldings gained more cushion in the team standings in the boys U18 division after shutting down Kanoa last Friday.

Taka Borja and Joshua Mendez scored for TanHoldings, which now has a 4-1-0 record to lead MP United (3-0-2), Kanoa (2-1-2), and

Matansa (0-0-5).

MP United 6, Matansa 0

MP United also blanked Matansa in the other match in the division for its third win.

John Michael Rojas tallied three goals for MP United, which drew one apiece from Jonathan Lim, Dylan Mister, and Eun Syu Hahn.

2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League

TEAM STANDINGS (As of Oct. 14, 2019)

GIRLS U16 DIVISION

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Kanoa	4	1	0	26	11	15	13
TanHoldings	4	0	1	29	7	22	12
Southern United	3	1	1	17	5	12	10
Shirley's	2	0	3	16	24	-8	6
MP United	1	0	4	14	36	-22	3
Matanda	0	0	5	9	28	-19	0

BOYS U16

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
TanHoldings	4	1	0	15	4	11	13
MP United	3	0	2	19	7	12	9
Kanoa	2	1	2	11	16	-5	7
Matansa	0	0	5	3	21	-18	0

BEARS

From Page 28

the first four innings and allowed their foes to score only in the third.

The Bears made three runs apiece in the first and second inning and added five in the third for a promising 11-0 advantage after three and a half innings. Leftfielder Ricardo Dela had back-to-back sacrifice flies in the first and second inning to bring in Henry Lizama, Jr. before the former reached in the third off Koby Lifoifoi's single.

Designated hitter A.J. Lizama had a pair of singles

in the first three innings to go with his two RBIs and two runs, while Kiku Lizama went 3-for-3 and contributed three runs in the Bears' strong start. Fred Songao chipped in two runs, while Jose Lizama Jr. added one.

As for the Blue Jays, they bungled their chances to hit the board at the bottom of the first inning, as after loading the bases, Bears starting pitcher J.J. Lizama struck out Froilan Camacho and Auriel Mendiola. The Blue Jays also had a chance to score in the second inning with Cabrera walking and moving to second and third off the Bears' field-

ing errors. However, Cabrera was left stranded at third when Koby Foreman was caught stealing second.

After being frustrated in the first two innings, the Blue Jays finally reached, thanks to Camacho's two-run single at the bottom of the third. Jess Mesa made it three in a row for the Blue Jays when he singled, advanced to second and third off the Bears' errors, and then stole home to keep his team in the game, 3-11.

However, that was the closest that the Blue Jays could get, as the Bears tightened their defense in the remainder of the game, shutting down

their foes while adding five more runs to cap the semis sweep.

With the Bears back in the finals, they are now waiting for the winner in the Go See Mark-Mariners semis showdown. The finale will be a best-of-five affair.

Mariners 6, GSM 4

The Mariners moved closer to joining the Bears in the championship series after edging GSM in Game 1 of their semis duel.

The Mariners played steadier in the homestretch, scoring four runs in fifth and sixth inning and notwithstanding GSM's rally at the top of the seventh.

The opposing teams were in a deadlock after four and a half innings, 1-1 with Nate Smith reaching off an error for the Mariners in the second and GSM's Franco Nakamura stealing home at the top of the fifth for the equalizer.

At the bottom of the fifth inning, the Mariners quickly regained the lead, 4-1, with Jon Villagomez blasting a two-run double and Nate Camacho scoring off K.J. Deleon Guerrero's single.

Then at the top of the sixth, GSM cut the deficit to 2 when J.J. Sablan reached off Nakamura's sacrifice fly, but the Mariners got the one run back,

as Pat Tenorio made it home off their foes' miscue at the bottom.

Still behind, 2-5, GSM made one final push for a comeback at the top of the seventh and last inning and had some successes. Lancaster Secharmidal scored off Vince Cepeda's single and the latter also reached on a base on ball with two outs and the bases loaded, boosting GSM's bid to steal Game 1.

However, the Mariners got the needed stop and pushed GSM on the brink when Nate Camacho, who came in for Jonah Flores late in the sixth inning, fanned Nakamura for the third out.



Walk-off homer
hands Astros
win in Game 2

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Watson outduels
Mahomes in Texans'
win over KC

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28 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Bears sweep way to finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears are back in the finals after sweeping the Blue Jays in the short semis series in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The defending champions cruised to a 16-3 victory over the Blue Jays in Game 2 to wrap up the best-of-three semis series and notch the first finals ticket. The Bears also easily won over the Blue Jays in Game 1,



18-0, last Oct. 5. The Henry Lizama, Sr.-coached Bears finished off the Blue Jays after only five innings in Game 2, as the 2018 champions were on target in

See BEARS on Page 27



Mawati's Frank Ferrer is forced to kick the ball out after facing the defense of Connie's BBQ's Darwin Barbo during their regular season game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League. Mawati and Connie's will square off in the semifinals tomorrow at the Civic Center Court.

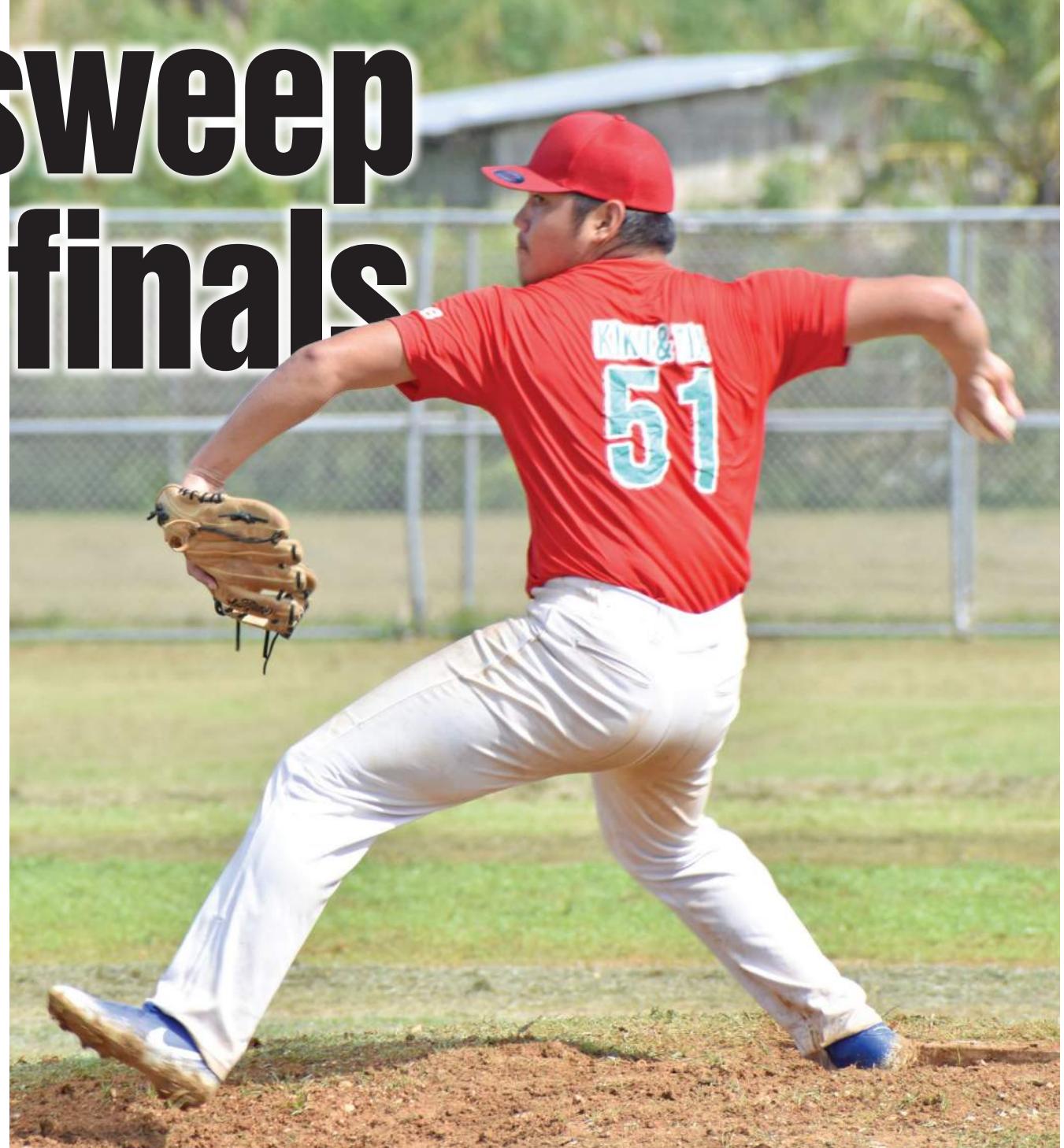
By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

TSINGTAO Mawati punched the third semis ticket in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League after prevailing over Saipan Adventure, 71-58, during

their playoff match last Friday at the Civic Center Court.

Behind in the first two quarters, Mawati managed to run off with the win after taking the lead from Saipan Adventure in the third quarter. With the victory, Mawati

See MAWATI on Page 27



The Chalan Kanoa Bears' Kiku Lizama delivers a pitch to the Blue Jays' Noel Cabrera during the bottom of the third inning in Game 2 of their semis series in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Kanoa climbs up; TanHoldings keeps lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club took the lead in the girls U16 division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League, while TanHoldings Football Club strengthened its hold of the top spot in the boys U18 age group after Week 5 action at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.

Kanoa downed TanHoldings, 5-2, to grab the driver's seat from the latter in the girls U16 division. Paulyn Joyce towed Kanoa to the victory, as the forward scored four goals after lighting up the board in the 25th, 55th, 58th, and 67th minute. Lynzey Green deliv-

ered the other goal for Kanoa, as she posted the game's first goal in the 13th minute.



The new division leader now has a 4-1-0 win-draw-loss record, slightly ahead of TanHoldings (4-0-1) and Southern United FC (3-1-1). Shirley's Football Club (2-0-3), MP United (1-0-4), and Matansa (0-0-5) rounded out the team standings.

TanHoldings dropped to second after drawing only one goal apiece from Stephanie Flores and Kaithlyn Chavez.

In other results in the division, Southern United and Shirley's eased past their respective foes.

Southern United is lurking

See KANOA on Page 27



Paulyn Joyce, left, scored four goals, while Lynzey Green, delivered one in Kanoa Football Club's 5-2 win over TanHoldings Football Club in the girls U16 division game in the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO